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THE HINDU on Sunday

JUNE 19, 2022

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Policeman killed in J&K in fourth such targeted attack since May
page 11

COVID-19 worsened matters in Sundarbans, says UN report
page 13

Zelensky visits southern Ukraine front as battle rages in Donbas
page 14

India takes on South Africa in final T20I at Bengaluru today
page 19

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NEARBY

Agniveers to be inducted into State police

BENGALURU

On a day protests over the Agnipath scheme spread to the State, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said the government would induct Agniveers into Karnataka police after completion of their service under the scheme for four years, ANI reported him as saying.

KARNATAKA ▸ PAGE 8

CLASSIFIEDS ▸ PAGES 4 & 14
MAGAZINE ▸ 8 PAGES

Farooq opts out of presidential race

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

National Conference (NC) vice-president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday withdrew from the presidential race, saying Jammu and Kashmir was passing through a critical juncture and required his efforts to navigate uncertain times.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 11

Centre offers to sweeten Agnipath deal

Defence, Home Ministries promise job reservation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Amid continuing protests and violence over the new Agnipath scheme for recruitment of soldiers into the armed forces, the Centre has offered a slew of support measures to accommodate Agniveers in various government departments after their four-year service.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has approved reservation for Agniveers for jobs within the ambit of the Defence Ministry. Several other Union Ministries have also promised the same.

Mr. Singh on Saturday gave his nod to a proposal to reserve 10% of the job vacancies in the Defence Ministry for Agniveers meeting the eligibility criteria. "The 10% reservation will be implemented in the Coast Guard and defence civilian posts, and all the 16 defence public sector undertakings (DPSUs). This reservation would be in addition to existing reservation for ex-servicemen," the Defence Ministry said in a statement. The announcement was made after Mr. Singh chaired a meeting with the three Service chiefs at his residence.

Necessary amendments to relevant recruitment rules will be undertaken to implement these provisions, the Ministry said adding, "DPSUs will be advised to make similar amendments to their respective recruitment rules. Necessary age relaxation provision will also be made."

Arresting violence: A group of Railway Protection Special Force personnel patrolling the violence-hit Secunderabad junction railway station on Saturday. • KAGARA GOPAL

Home Ministry promise

On similar lines, the Ministry of Home Affairs too announced a decision to reserve jobs covering 10% vacancies in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and the Assam Rifles for Agniveers and also give three years' age relaxation beyond the prescribed upper age limit for recruitment in CAPFs and Assam Rifles. Further, this upper age relaxation has been extended to five years for the first batch of Agniveers, it stated.

"Also, by augmenting their skills, Agniveers will be a well-trained and highly disciplined youth force that can be harnessed for nation building and will be an asset to the society," a government statement said.

However, the Congress has termed the Agnipath recruitment scheme "directionless". While assuring the youth of her party's support, Congress president Sonia Gandhi appealed to protesters to express their demands through non-violent means.

"I am sad that the government has announced the scheme of new army recruitment ignoring your voice, which is completely directionless. Along with you, many ex-servicemen and defence experts have also raised questions on this plan," Ms. Gandhi said in a statement that was released by Congress communication chief Jairam Ramesh.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 11

Stir spreads; railway station gutted in Bihar

THE HINDU BUREAU
NEW DELHI

The protests against the Agnipath recruitment scheme to the armed forces continued for the fourth consecutive day in many parts of the country despite announcements of reservation. The Opposition parties have started parallel agitations against the scheme, though they distanced themselves from the violence witnessed during the protests.

Tensions mounted in Warangal town in Telangana during the funeral procession of Rakesh, who was killed in Friday's police firing on a rampaging mob at Secunderabad railway station. The crowd in the procession barged into a BSNL office on the way and burnt a board.

In Bihar, things remained out of control as aspirants set a railway station and ambulances on fire and clashed with police personnel. The Railways suspended movement of many trains till 8 p.m. on Saturday, and said property worth ₹200 crore was damaged.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 11

Under watch: A Taliban fighter standing guard in front of a Gurdwara that came under attack in Kabul. • AFP

Two killed in Kabul gurdwara attack

Taliban 'strongly condemn' the assault

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE
NEW DELHI

Unidentified gunmen attacked a gurdwara in the Afghan capital of Kabul on Saturday morning. The security guards stationed on its premises fired in retaliation, which triggered a fire that gutted parts of the complex. The Taliban have vowed to take punitive measures against the perpetrators of the attack.

Puneet Singh Chandhoke, president of the India World Forum, who has been coordinating with the Indian government to evacuate Sikhs from the Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, said at least two persons were killed and the fate of several remained unknown as they were taken to hospital by emergency workers.

Ahmed, a security guard at Gurdwara Karte Parwan, was shot dead in the attack that is being blamed on the Islamic State. Mr. Chandhoke said the gurdwara's main prayer hall, where the Guru Granth Sahib was kept, caught fire after the exchange of fire. Sawinder Singh, a *granthi* (ceremonial reader of the Guru Granth Sahib) of the gurdwara, was killed in the attack.

"The cowardly attack on Gurdwara Karte Parwan should be condemned in the strongest terms by all," External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar said in response to the attack.

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 11

'No resolutions against other countries in Parliament'

NISTULA HEBBAR
SANDEEP PHUKAN
NEW DELHI

Parliamentary proceedings in a country shouldn't be used to make allegations and counter allegations against the Parliament of another country, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has said.

Mr. Birla made these remarks in the context of a lawmaker in the Maldives trying to move a resolution against India in the Maldivian Parliament over the controversy surrounding a BJP functionary's statement on Prophet Muhammed.

"This issue doesn't strictly concern the functioning of Parliament. Rather, it's about relations between nations. Everyone has the right to speak about issues in their own country. But it is our expectation that the parliamentary proceedings of any country should not get reduced to making allegations and counter-allegations about another country. You can surely discuss events, but Parliament should not be used to pass resolutions concerning another country," Mr. Birla said.

In an interview with *The Hindu* on the occasion of his completing three years in office, the Lok Sabha Speaker shared his views on the Parliament functioning under COVID protocol.

"During the coronavirus pandemic, the duration of sittings was reduced, but if you look at the figures, Lok Sabha clocked 167% productivity and this is a record high," Mr. Birla noted.

FULL INTERVIEW ▸ PAGE 12

Two dead in rain-related incidents; man missing after falling into drain

28-year-old fell into an SWD in K.R. Puram while attempting to save his bike

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Heavy rains that lashed the city on Friday night left two dead and another missing. In another rain-related incident, a person was killed in an accident at Tavarekere.

Mithun Kumar, 28, a resident of Gayatri Layout in K.R. Puram, was washed away in the storm-water drain (SWD) right next to his house around 11 p.m. on Friday. Despite the efforts by the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) teams and Fire and Emergency Services through Saturday, his body could not be recovered.

"We started the search operations from the spot where he fell into the drain and followed the course of the drain till it reached the nearby Seegehalli lake, where search operations were on till Saturday night. We haven't recovered his body and we will continue the search operations on Sunday," said a senior fireman who led the rescue and search operations.

Rescue personnel pulling out the bike of Mithun Kumar, who got washed away during the rain, from a drain on Saturday. • PTI

Mithun Kumar's house is right next to the SWD that was in spate following heavy rains on Friday night. As water from the adjoining areas was flowing on the road, Mithun Kumar's bike, parked at the edge of the drain, was about to fall into the drain. In an attempt to prevent it, he fell into the drain with the bike. Though his friends tried to lift him out of the drain, they couldn't and he was washed away in the drain.

Compensation

Sources said it was highly unlikely that he would have survived. Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath said the civic body would provide Mithun Kumar's family ₹5 lakh compensation.

In another incident, a senior citizen Muniyamma, 62, was killed and two others injured when the compound wall of the Godrej Apartment premises collapsed following heavy rain and fell over two houses with asbestos sheet roofs adjoining the compound at Kaverinagar, Garudacharpalya. While all three of them were rushed to the nearby Vydehi Hospital with severe injuries, Muniyamma died a few hours later. The other two are said to be out of danger. Mr. Giri Nath said the civic body would get the apartment complex pay compensation to the family of the deceased.

RELATED REPORTS ▸ PAGE 5

II PU exam results out; pass percentage improves marginally

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The pass percentage in the II PU exam, the results of which were announced on Saturday, saw a marginal improvement by 0.08% compared to the previous year.

Primary and Secondary Education Minister B.C. Nagesh announced the results here on Saturday.

This year, 61.88% students cleared the exam.

Of the total 6,83,563 who appeared, 4,22,966 cleared the exam. A total of 4,02,697 (67.14%) regular students, 14,403 (23.29%) repeaters, and 5,866 (26.75%) private candidates passed the exam.

RELATED REPORTS ▸ PAGE 6

400 under scanner for helping Chinese firms

Chartered accountants and company secretaries help set up shell companies

VIJAITA SINGH
NEW DELHI

The Union government has recommended disciplinary action against 400 chartered accountants (CAs) and company secretaries (CSs) for their alleged role in incorporating Chinese shell companies in metropolitan cities by flouting norms and rules, *The Hindu* has learnt.

The stringent action is among a series of measures taken by the government against Chinese business entities after the 2020 Galwan incident when 20 soldiers were killed in clashes with the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA).

Though the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from Chinese companies has come to naught in the past two years due to various regulatory measures initiated by the government, the trade between the two countries hit a record $125 billion last year. In April-June 2020, FDI from China (counted from the year 2000) stood at ₹15,422 crore while in the first quarter of 2022 it has come down to ₹12,622 crore, according to Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) data.

SPECIAL

A senior government official told *The Hindu* that the CAs and CSs against whom disciplinary action was initiated had helped incorporate a large number of Chinese-owned or Chinese-run shell companies without adequate compliance of rules and law. The Ministry of Corporate Affairs recommended the action after receiving inputs from financial intelligence units in the past two months. A Ministry spokesperson did not comment.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI), a statutory body that regulates the profession of chartered accountancy in the country, said in a statement to *The Hindu* that the "Disciplinary directorate of ICAI is in receipt of complaints from office of various Registrar of Companies across the country against CA professionals for their involvement in relation to companies alleged to be linked with Chinese nationals."

CONTINUED ON ▸ PAGE 11

Tightening grip

The government took a series of steps to tighten the grip on the functioning of Chinese companies in the past two years

April 2020: FDI policy tweaked to mandate government nod for investment from countries that share a land border with India

May 2022: MCA makes it compulsory for companies to obtain government approval before offering securities to any entity from a country that shares a land border

August 2020: Customs rules notified to prevent dumping of cheap Chinese goods in India by a wrongful representation of the country of origin

June 2022: MCA mandates a security clearance if an individual from a country sharing a land border intends to become a director or shareholder in an Indian company

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Dr. A.C. Chandrashekar Raju, President
K. Syama Raju, Secretary

Collective effort: Tribal women on their way to preparing an agricultural field at Umsowai village in Karbi Anglong district of Assam.

A bounty in the horizon

As the monsoon arrived two weeks ahead of schedule, Assam farmers are expecting a good harvest

TEXT AND IMAGES BY RITU RAJ KONWAR

Agriculture occupies an important place in the economy of Assam, and rural farmers make up its backbone. This year, good rain ahead of the monsoon helped farmers gain a head start in planting their crops. Even the monsoon, which normally arrives in the State in the first week of June, was early by a couple of weeks. Good rain during this period brightens the prospects of the Kharif crop.

During the season, tribal communities living in the hills and plains celebrate many agriculture-related rituals and festivals. Some are celebrated at the beginning of the season to invoke the blessings of the gods for a good harvest. The tribal life revolves around the rituals, beliefs and traditions associated with agriculture.

Agriculture is a far more complex activity than hunting and gathering. Tilling, sowing and harvesting are long, uncertain and tiring, requiring patience, confidence and far-sightedness.

The tribal community has a strong sense of collective endeavour, helping them through the planting season and benefiting them economically.

Tribal way: Women workers at Umsowai fashion cups out of bamboo for drinking water.

Green thumbs: Seasoned hands at Bormarjong.

Refreshing drink: Locally grown tea is being brewed by the side of a field.

Germinating a season: A man sows paddy seeds in his Jhum field at Bormarjong village in Karbi Anglong.

Packed spread: Rice wrapped in banana leaves are being distributed to the workers at Umsowai.

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Fine powder: Tiwa tribesmen pounding rice as they take part in the Wanchuwa festival.

Smooth flow: Women clean a channel to take water to their agricultural field at Bormarjong.

Ready for transplant: Paddy seedlings ready in a Jhum field at Bormarjong.

Invoking the gods: Tiwa tribesmen perform their traditional dance as they take part in the Wanchuwa festival at Bormarjong. Tiwas pray for a bountiful harvest during this festival..

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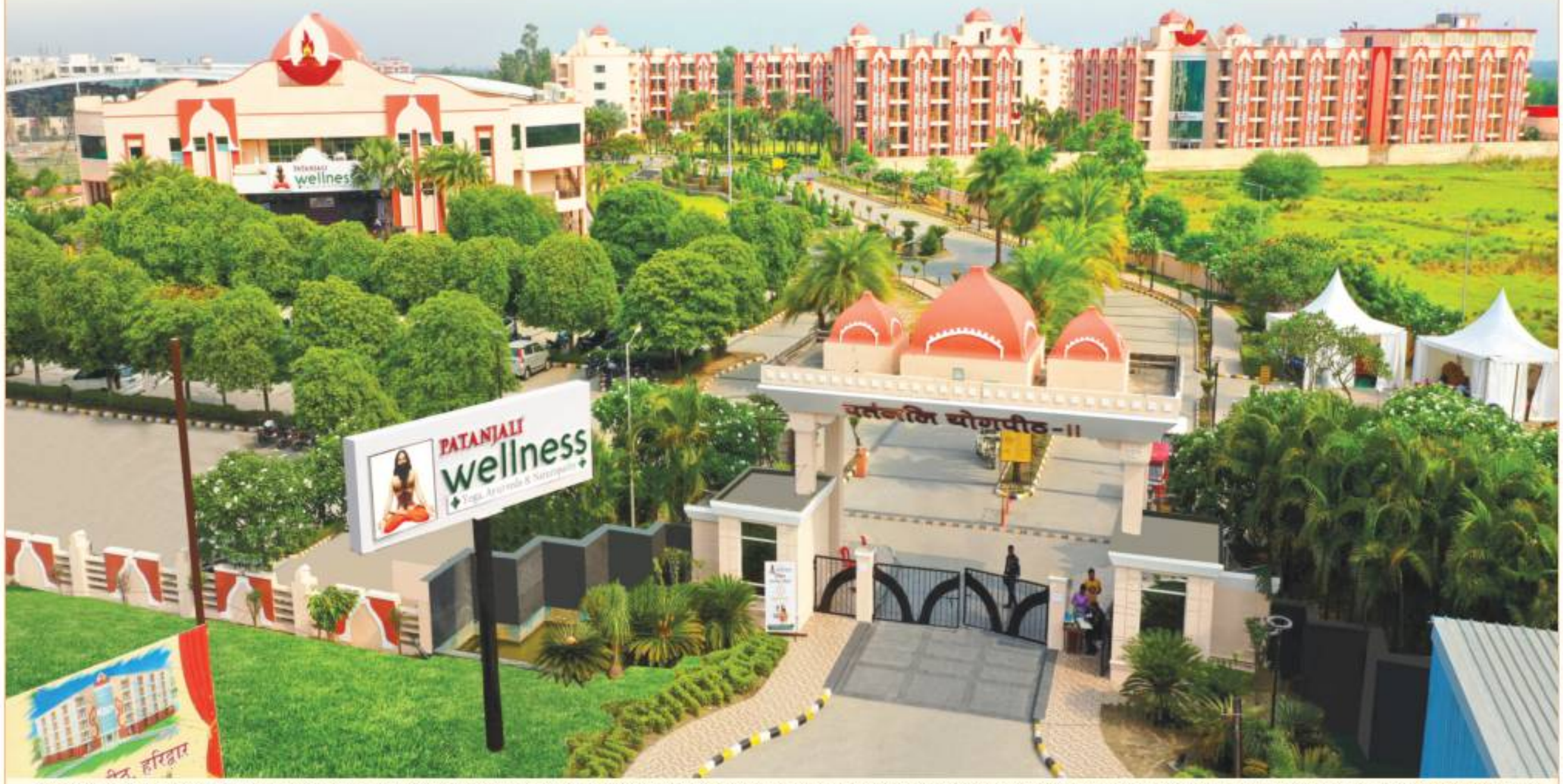

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Holiday for colleges in vicinity of PM's route

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

In view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the city on Monday, and his participation in several events, the higher education institutions located in the proximity of his travel route have been asked to declare a holiday for security reasons.

Order issued

C.N. Ashwath Narayan, Minister for Higher Education, said that a Government Order to this effect was issued on Saturday.

This will be applicable to higher educational institutions in the vicinity of IISc., Goraguntepalya, CMTI, Ring Road, Dr. Rajkumar Memorial flyover, Laggere bridge, Nayandahalli, Mysuru Road R.V. College, Nagarabavi, Sumanahalli flyover, MEI junction, Govardhan Talkies, Yeshwanthpur, and Jakkur Aerodrome route.

PM to lay foundation stone for Satellite Township Ring Road

This is apart from laying the stone for suburban rail, says Bommai

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai visited all the venues of the Prime Minister's programme, on Saturday. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone for the much delayed Satellite Township Ring Road (STRR) as well on Monday.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who visited all the venues of the Prime Minister's programme on Saturday and oversaw preparations, said apart from laying foundation stone for suburban rail, he would also lay foundation stone for the STRR. "This road will connect Dobbspet, Hoskote and Old Madras Road. This project is being taken up after special concessions provided by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari," he said.

STRR, which aims to decongest the city, is being implemented by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) under the Bharatmala Pariyojana scheme with an investment of ₹15,000 crore. The State government will also bear a part of the project cost.

Civic chief announces details of his availability at zonal HQ

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Chief Civic Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath has announced a calendar of when he will function out of the zonal headquarters in a month. Every Tuesday and Friday, he will be available at the zonal headquarters between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. The days are: First Tuesday- East zone; First Friday - West Zone; Second Tuesday - South zone; Second Friday - RR Nagar zone; Third Tuesday - Bommanahalli zone; Third Friday - Mahadevapura zone; Fourth Tuesday - Yelahanka zone; Fourth Friday - Dasarahalli zone

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40, Girls' School Street, Seshadripuram, Bengaluru - 560020.
Contact : Prof. Vidya Shivannanavar, Principal Tel : 22955382. www.sicm.edu.in
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Seshadripuram Academy of Business Studies
18, 2nd Main, Kengeri Satellite Town, Bengaluru - 560060.
Contact : Prof. Jayarama, Principal Tel : 28488676 website: www.saba.ac.in
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COMEDK UGET-2022 to be held across 230 centres today

Test will be conducted in two sessions

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

COMEDK Under Graduate Entrance Test-2022 (UGET-2022) for admission to undergraduate engineering courses will be held on Sunday in 154 cities across the India.

COMEDK UGET-2022 is a computer-based online examination that will be held across 230 test centres in 154 cities in two sessions. The morning session will be held between 9 a.m. and noon, while the afternoon session will be held between 2.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.

This year, around 61,635 candidates have enrolled for the test all over the country.

Entries invited for Kannada Agriculture Book award

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore (UAS-B), has invited books from authors who have written on agriculture in Kannada for the Kannada Agriculture Book award 2021. U

AS-B, in a release, said that books published between January 1 and December 31, 2021, are eligible for the award.

Writers can send three copies of their works to the Head, Kannada Research Section, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK Campus, Bengaluru by July 30, 2022. For details, mail to kannada.uas@gmail.com or call 080-2330239.

Actor stabbed to death

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Actor and YouTuber Satish Vajra was allegedly stabbed to death at his residence in Rajarajeshwarinagar by his brother-in-law on Saturday.

Satish, 36, hailing from Maddur, Mandya, had gotten married four years ago. His wife died seven months ago and her family alleged it was due to lack of medical care.

On Saturday, Satish's brother-in-law, with a plan to kill him allegedly to avenge his sister's death, came armed with a knife and stabbed the actor multiple times before fleeing the spot, the police said. Satish had acted in a few short films and was popular as a YouTuber.

Timings
BENGALURU

SUNDAY, JUN. 19		
RISE	05:54	SET 18:48
RISE	23:38	SET 10:45
MONDAY, JUN. 20		
RISE	05:55	SET 18:48
RISE	00:00	SET 11:40
TUESDAY, JUN. 21		
RISE	05:55	SET 18:48
RISE	00:19	SET 12:32

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	23
Mysuru	31	21
Bengaluru	27	21

Bengaluru Today
29°C A slight warm and humid weather to prevail. Night will be pleasant. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower is possible.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C The weather will be comfortable but humid. Night will be pleasant. Few spells of moderate rain and thundershower to occur.

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25th June 2022 **Chowdiah Memorial Hall**, 16th Cross Road, Malleswaram	**25th June 2022** **Geetha** **S.M Shetty Hall** Ramakrishna College, Bunts Hostel Circle	**26th June 2022** **Birla Auditorium**, Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumakuru	**26th June 2022** **Gyansudha Vidyalaya** Mamankeri Campus, Bidar

Bengaluru South	Hubballi	Ballari	Mysuru	Davangere
2nd July 2022 **NMKRV Shashwathi Auditorium**, 22nd Cross, Jayanagar 3rd Block, Bengaluru	**2nd July 2022** **K. L. E Societys Bio Technology Auditorium**, B.V.B College of Engineering & Technology Campus, Vidyanagar	**3rd July 2022** **BPSC Pre University College** Ananthapuru Road, Ballari	**3rd July 2022** **Vidyavardhaka College of Engineering** P.B. No.206, Gokulam III Stage, Mysuru	**3rd July 2022** **BAPUJI B School** BAPUJI MBA College, Lake View Campus, S S Layout, Davanagere

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BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

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TAMIL YADAV, Widow, Unconsummated, 1976 born, Chennai, IT professional. Seeks similar match. VEG prefd; CNB. Ct.8939042966.

COSMOPOLITAN

DOCTOR, PURSUING DM, AIIMS Delhi, 28/160, Tamil, Hindu, Mudaliar, Makam, seeks suitable groom, Masters/PhD in any field. Contact parents 9880016674, 9449821952.

WANTED POSTGRADUATE, professionally settled groom in India for Vadakalai Bharadwajam Hastam, Dec 1987, 178 cms. BALLB (Hons), double PG bride. Kalai no bar. Email: matrimonynew07@gmail.com

DOCTOR

MCH SURGICAL Oncology (Ongoing), 27, 5ft 8inch, slim, good looking, Rohini, Rishabam seek DM / MCH / DrNB doing vegetarian groom, 27–30, from Chennai. CNB. Contact 6383189302

DOCTOR GIRL MD Anesthesiology 32/165 from affluent elite family of doctors.Working in top hospital Chennai. Fair beautiful good mannered andcultured. Father doctor Kerala Nair . Engineer & Doctor grooms with MD MS MCh DM from good family background from Kerala and TamilNadu preferable. Ct: 9840050381 9840385383

WANTED MEDICAL PG or MBBS Bride Groom For A Medical PG Bride. 9677366350

TAMIL VISWAKARMA Govt Doctor Bride MD (GM) 31/167 Fair Vishagam Seeks Doctor / Engineer / Govt. Officer Bridegroom Ct : 94459 64285

HINDU SC-PR, 26yrs/ 5.6', Poosam, Kadagam, MBBS, Govt. Medical Officer, Parents Govt seeks MBBS/ MD/MS, ongoing PG Groom preferably Govt. below 30 years. 94446 53587/ 97881 54437

MUDALIAR/HINDU VELLALA PILLAI Doctor girl,MBBS,24 yrs/153 cm ,Bharani, well settled doctor family seeks groom MD/MS/Superspeciality below 30 yrs from well settled family .Ct.7010368615 / DRNS0097@GMAIL.COM

ENGINEER

REQUEST SUITABLE alliance , for a 28 yr old girl from Kerala ,had Dual degree MTech from IIT Chennai , currently working in Chennai. Belongs to Hindu SC Paravar.Star Vishakham,caste no bar. contact no 9847573461,email. mohananks@hotmail.com

MALAYALAM

CALICUT BASED Thiyya girl, 26, Corporate Lawyer (Mumbai), LLB from National law school, parents Gazetted officers, Caste no bar. 9633046765.

NAIR GIRL 28 /154 BE, Revathy, Chennai setld – employed (2-Dosham), seeks from Nair Family. 9500012855

GROOMS WANTED FOR MUSLIM WOMAN
Proposals invited for a Muslim Divorcee (39 / 162), religious, fair, doctor, financially moderately stable, with two sons (14&9) settled in New Zealand, from suitable persons or parents
Mob: 94470 04992

NRI

SEEKING ALLIANCE from Canada / US for Toronto based Naidu girl, 31, Product & Digital Strategy Manager. Caste no bar. E: alliance4viveks@gmail.com Whatsapp: +91 8148809055

TAMIL

OUR TWIN girls both BE/MNC 25/5.5ft slim settled Chennai seeks suitable Tamil muslim grooms Ct:98412 17645.

CHRISTIAN 28/165 Born again fair good looking MS employed Canada seeks God fearing well educated employed willing to settle in Canada Christian groom. Caste no bar. 9894234694

SEEKING PROFESSIONAL Groom for a God fearing CSI Christian Nadar Bride. SWE Bangalore, 35 yrs/165 cm, 25 L P.A. Contact: 94438 83665

CSI CHRISTIAN Nadar Girl Fair, Good Looking, 03–04–1986 born / 152cm / M.Sc M.Phil, working as Assistant Professor in a Reputed Women's College, Mount Road, Chennai. Both Parents Doctors (Private), Suitable Alliance, Employed / Settled in Chennai / With Clean Habits from Same Community. Contact: 9841182514

THE HINDU
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TAMIL

CHRISTIAN NADAR/HINDU Nadar Groom only for very affluent Christian Nadar PG girl, April 1992. nadarbride1992@gmail.com

MUSLIM TAMIL 21 yrs fair studying MBBS Chennai /grooms below 26yrs. SMS 94447 21694.

VANNIAR+ MUDALIAR 29/162, Fair & Beautiful, B.Arch, Business, Chennai.Only Daughter, Elite Family, Seeks Affluent Business Groom Chennai or Coimbatore-9840480334, 8939012419

HINDU, SC Adi Dravida, BE–MBA, working in Accenture, Age – 29, contact: 9444991091.

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYAR Fair, Slim, 25/164, Avitam, B.E Seeks Groom from Well Settled family. Ct:–9840028346

HINDU NADAR, 1991 /165CM, MBBS,MD (Anaesthesia), Poosam, Katagam, Fair seeks Suitable Groom. reshmim91@gmail.com, 9942085205

TAMIL HINDU, 1989 Born, Homely Bride, Rich Family, Hastham, seeks Groom, 1984 - 89 Born, Unmarried, Handsome Well settled Business Family in South India, CNB. smjmduad@yahoo.com

AGAMUDAYA MUDALIAR 24,156 cms, Doctor working as J.R.JIPMER, Father Advocate. Mother Doctor. Looking suitable well educated Groom from same community Ct: 9443242281

HINDU SC AD 27 Fair, B.E Trichy Seeks Groom from Same Caste: 9750040359 / 9442539235

27, FAIR, B.Tech, M.S. working in Chennai D/O Ex M.L.A, G.D/O EX M.P., Seeks settled groom CNB. 9489935653

CASTENOBAR CHETTIAR/ 1977 Nov / MCA/ Fair and Vary young Looking Seeks Hindu forward community Contact: deree202203@gmail.com, Ph:9790775450

HINDU SC/AD 28yrs/160cm BE., ECE Chennai seeks Professionally qualified groom below 32 yrs. Ct : 9710843632

MUDALIAR 33/ 152 PG Doctor Thiruvathirai seeks PG Doctors/ Business family/ Highly qualified groom between 33–36 yrs. CNB. Ct: 9884202884

CHETTIAR– CNB 31/170 fair btl B.Tech, PGDM- IIM- Calcutta/ MNC 40L. Req equally edu Groom Ct: 8300665039

AUG 1979 born Associate Professor in Eng. College, Hastham star, Kanni Rasi Fair Homely Girl seeks Educated Groom from Thuluva Vellala Mudaliyar. Ct: 9840477890 / 044–42647373.

VK KSHATRIYA Hindu Chennai CA girl 30/5ft 1inch expects groom from Chennai. Preferably CA. Caste no bar 9500100848/9840200907

HINDU NADAR 27, MBBS, Bharani Masham, Suddha Jathagam, Seeks Good looking Doctor. Ct:9965252880.

THANJAVUR SAIVAPILLAI 26/165 BE, Civil, Wheatish, Makaram seeks employed groom contact: 6380810427

SUPREME RICH Hindu Nadar 28, B.E.,Industrialist (Only Daughter) Fair,Seeks Groom . Ct: 7305491610

HINDU PR 29/160 BE, MS in US, employed in US H1B visa seeks suitable groom from US/UK/Canada or willing to settle in US/UK/Canada. Ct: 9945223333

SC, AD(KONGU) 30/151, BE (PSG–CBE) SBI, Hastham, upper middle class, own house, properties seeks suitable groom, cast no bar–CT: 9443702720

HINDU VELLALA Pillai 37 163 Visakam Fair MBA Working in Qatar Willing to Relocate to any Place seeks well qualified Professional Groom rasnani1948@gmail.com Ct: 81220 59734

PILLAI/MUDALIAR, 33, Good looking, MBBS, MD Final yr, Well Settled family seeks Groom 33-35 years, Engineer/ Business/ Doctor. Ct: 9345855735

PILLAI/ MUDALIAR, 26 B.E Kettai Working in Leading MNC, Reputed Business Family Seeks Alliance for His Daughter Call 98400 93322

HINDU SOZHIA Vellalar 28/157, Divorced Fair Girl/B.E short lived requires educated Govt/Bank working groom unmarried or divorced. CT: 63807 98748/84389 83733.

INTER CASTE Parents seek for daughter 27/158 SWE employed Chennai, from suitable Hindu groom. 90032 87101

MATCH FOR Fair,Saiva Pillai girl, Veg. Dentist, 24/158. Groom should be well educated and working in Singapore. Contact WhatsApp : +65 91670073

HINDU NADAR Bride 34/163 B.Tech, VP,BANK, Canada.Divorced within 10days Null&void PoosamKadagam. Seeks groom below 38yrs CNB preferably working in Canada,US. 9941302113.

SCAD TAMIL Hindu 31/5ft 6inch MBA MNC BLR HR 16 LPA Seeks Suitable Groom Contact 9483517099

HINDU/SC.AD, SIMMAM/MAGAN(26/5'2") MCA, ITA @TCS, 8.40L/p.a. Same Caste Groom from Chennai. 9840365908

TAMIL

HINDU NADAR Sister Girls, age 28 / 23, Ht 167/167cms, M.E. Asst Prof / B.E (I.T), Upper middle class. Seeks Upper middle class, equally qualified brother boys of age below 30 in job or business. Marriage both at a stage. Contact: 96265 15511

WIDOW 34YRS B.Tech, well settled good looking with 6yr old child. Needs life partner who is progressive and broad minded. Age below 40yrs caste no bar 80727 50829 / 98846 95374

HINDU, VANIYA Chettiyar Widow (2 Female Child Age 10& 6) 34yrs,5.1 Feet, B.Com, Worked as Clerk in S. Rly, Chennai. Seeks any BC/MBC Groom from Chennai. 9444452870/ 9962997996

GAVARA, 30/159cm, M.E., Divorce without encumbrance, Parents-Central Govt. seeks qualified Groom from middle/ affluent family.Ct: 9489352752

MUDALIAR AVITTAM 26 155 B.E. fair Non–IT Bangalore 6.6 Lacs p.a. seeks from Chennai/Bangalore 9840143908

MUDALIAR: 26/160, Fair & Beautiful, B.E, MBA (USA), Data Analyst, MNC, USA, Elite Family, Seeks Groom Abroad/ India – 8925019776

VANIYA CHETTIYAR Aswini Mesam 28/163 MBBS, MD final year,Pulmonology,seeks Doctor/IPS/IAS. Sub cast no bar.Ct: sendhu94@gmail.com 8148895304

MUDALIAR 24 /170 Pooram BA PGDIB Ch seeks Affluent Business Profile in Chennai Ct: Geetham 9884858014

HINDU NADAR BE/MBA 30/170cm 100000 Income Seeks Suitable Groom KA Raman Nadar 9380791999

ASST. PROF. Tuluva Vellal Mudaliar Good looking Girl 34 Uthirattathy, Meenam, Ph.D(Physics), Family Seeks Alliance from First and Unmarried Bachelor Bridegroom Aged 34–36 Yrs, Employed, Caste no bar. Contact: After 7 PM: 7550245659

ALLIANCE INVITED from professionally qualified Groom well placed within India from upper class family with clean habits for a charming fair Iyengar Vadakalai Girl 27, 150cms, Koundinya, Moolam 4th padam, BTech MBA, Chennai employed belonging to educated / affluent family. Iyengar/ Iyer any brahmin acceptable. Age difference 3 years. Horoscope matching optional. Call/ whatsapp: 9843341294 or 9843902242.

37 YRS Iyer girl divorcee, no kids, seeks well educated working groom age gap upto 5 yrs, clean habits, same community, except koundinya gotra, Chennai only! Ct: 9940332928

Catholic Adidravida Bride M.TECH (CSE), 24 yrs | 154 cm, SOFTWARE ENGINEER in CAPEGEMINI [Chennai]. Parents seek suitable groom from SOFTWARE PROFESSIONALS.
Call @ 9999143474

GROOMS WANTED
Vanniar + Mudaliar (Caste No Bar): 29/162, Fair & Beautiful, B.Arch, Father is a Business Man, Chennai, Affluent Family, Seeks Groom Rich & Affluent Business Family From Chennai or Coimbatore
Ct: 98404 80334, 89390 12419

Saiva Pillai, UK Doctor 27/180 Slim Fair Revathy seeks Tamil boy working in UK below 30 years of age from reputed family
Ct: 94864-89438
rcmp2021@gmail.com

AGAMUDAYA THEVAR 40/165 MBA working USA Divorcee No kids, Seeks suitable well Employed Groom below age 45. CT: 93633 33297.

HINDU VANNIYAR Girl 25/155 M.Sc, B.Ed, Anusham, Viruchigam, Wheatish seeks Educated Groom. 9940678478

HINDU AGAMUDAYAR, 28/148, B.E, M.S, Design Engr. Germany seeks well educated Groom working at Germany - same caste. Ct: 9442883070

HINDU SC PR Kongu 1984 MBBS DCH Doctor, working in Govt Hospital, seeks suitable groom. Ct:9443680973

TELUGU

44 Yrs, SC - Madiga Telugu Christian Chennai /diploma/ Invtd decent family. Phone - 93908 45532

BALIJA, 1990 born, CA triplet, 5ft 5inch charming seeks professional groom, ct. 7339373793

NAIDU, 40/150cm, Uthirattathi, Ph.D., Asst.Prof, 1st Marriage seeks suitable Groom. Sub sect No Bar. 7358166806

BRIDES WANTED

COSMOPOLITAN

SM FOR my son 39/5ft 6inch/ Masters/ IT Sr. Software Consultant in Leading MNC. Ph: 8961722097 or 8919967453

TELUGU SC Mala groom, 29, 175 cm, handsome, B.Tech and Masters, from well to do educated family, working in U.K. , seeks educated beautiful bride between the age 23–27. Caste or language no bar. Christians can also apply. No brokers. Send bio, photo to raagaswara07@gmail.com.

KONGU VELLALAR Gounder 35yrs BE, MNC Bangalore, 13 LPA, UnMarried, seeks suitable Educated Bride from same caste - 9886572314

MUDALIYAR BOY MS Engineer in Sweden.180/76 from affluent cosmopolitan family. Uthiradam 35 caste no bar. Ct 9884187197

RC Anglo-Indian 35/160 B.Tech, SW Engr in reputed Multi-national company seeks suitable Bride. Caste & Denomination no Bar. Ct: 9841462791

MIDDLECLASS WIDOWER need below40yrs lady for life partner, without any encumbrance in chennai. 8105073838

DOCTOR

BRIDE WANTED
MBBS DOCTOR, Naidu, Age 27 years, Parents Doctors own Hospital in Coimbatore. Well to do family. Seeks a suitable Fair Doctor girl from an educated family
Contact: 98422 72255

MALAYALAM

TRIVANDRUM BASED romancatholic boy 38/175 social worker in Canada PR holder invited suitable alliance. Ph: 9349350333

WANTED BRIDE for Nambiar youth. 27 Years, fair, 177cm, Post graduate Engineer from IIT. Employed as Post Graduate Engineer in Qualcomm at Bangalore. Middle class family of Kannur District Kerala, mother is employed in State Govt and father is a Group A officer of central govt. In search of suitable Girls (similarly qualified/well employed at Bangalore/well employed elsewhere but transferable to Bangalore) from Nambiar/ Poduval/ Menon/ Nair/ similar communities, having age below 25. Interested parents please contact parents of bridegroom with Horoscopic details to 2023krishna9191@gmail.com. Whatsapp number may please be given for further communication

38 YEARS Nair boy from Coimbatore, working in HCL Technologies (WFH) seeking alliance from a decent family. Brokers please excuse. Contact +91 9894546059

Nair Boy, Advocate in Pondicherry 35 Yrs seeks Alliance from well settled Nair Family. 8072507037/ 9894949009

HINDU NAIR, 36/169, Uthradam, Handsome, Govt.job. Divorcee without issue seeks beautiful Bride from (Nair/ Saiva Vellalar/ Vellalar) Poor/ Middle Class Family. Ct : 8807525679

IYER BOY Pune, Mid forties, looks younger, Unmarried, PG, MNC now business, good monthly income, own house, seeks bride, educated 35-41 middle class, poor fly, no demands, Divorcee Ok Caste no bar, Employed/ unemployed.9995096272,9975539063

TAMIL

SAIVA PILLAI 34, 5ft 8inch, fair and handsome, BE (Telecom), Officer Indian Army Tech Branch, 20 lacs PA, son of retd army officer looking for affable and well educated girl. Equal and sub caste no bar. 9448307862.

VISWAKARMA (G.S) Uthiradam 42/168, Bachelor, Doctor, Principal in Pvt Medical college, Bangalore seeks suitable bride. Ct: 9480611093, 7349544114, 9448655053.

NAIDU 31/164cm ME Asst. Professor Chennai-Divorcee seeks suitable Bride Unmarried/ Divorcee - no issue- Naidu/ Mudaliar/ pillai/ Reddiyar/ Chettiar pref. Contact : 94456 89306 / 94430 52596.

BRAHMIN 32/182cm BE, MBA MNC HR. professional 8Lacs PA. seeks suitable Brahmin Educated bride. contact: 7667724406/g.nishanth85@gmail.com

SAIVA MUDALIYAR Well Settled 41/165 M.Tech employed divorce seeks bride below 38 yrs. Contact: 7824940197

INTERCASTE PARENTS Kirthigai 27/178 B.Sc MBA US Voice Sr. AR seeks suitable bride Caste nobar 9840388489

1984 AUG Born 188Cms, Advocate (Bank & Co.,) seeks Educated & Good Looking Bride Veg Only Ct: 9841298539

REDDIYAR 32 Swathi,Thulam B.A IT 60,000pm Seeks any Deg Good Family No Expectation, Chennai: 9789015037

VANNIYAKULAKSHATRIYA 32 BE Mech Viruchigam Kettai Own IT Infrastructure Services well Setteled affluent family, Chennai seeks employed good family background bride. 6380923434

SC/AD 29/167 Fair Mirugasirisham BE SBI (Associate) 5L/ pa seeks suitable employed bride. Ct: 9840515359

TAMIL

HINDU PILLAI 52/160cm Agriculture, Seeks Bride (CNB),CT:9788881674.

HINDU TAMIL, 1984 Born, Revathi, Groom From Rich Business family, Madurai, Seeks Good looking Bride, from South India. CNB. smjmduad@yahoo.com

AGAMUDAYAR, 29/172, Pooradam, B.E. Fair, SWE, 20 L pa seeks suitable Bride preferably SWE/ Doctor. Ct: 85080 99103

Tamil Hindu Adi-Dravida Fair BE Mech in Hyd MetroRail Project 26/172 Simma / Puram seeks Bride Same Caste Doctors/Engg below 25 Fair Mob: 9444915129.

58, DECENT, Well Settled Seeking Issueless Widow / Divorcee. Contact : 7401489892

5'8 Mudaliar Boy Born in Feb 90 well settled working in Central Govt Rural Bank (RRB) near Hyderabad salary 8 lacs PA seeks Bride 5'2 above contact no 9866229004

HINDU AGAMUDAYA Mudaliyar,AC.Raghavan,28/170cm, Fair,Viruchigam, Anusam, M.Tech, Pvt 50000/– Seeks same Cast Bride. Ct:9150727763, 8778669911

HINDU DIVORCEE Male age 40 (Software) seeking bride. Caste no bar. ct:9940109584

SC AD DIVORCEE 31 BE Canara Bank Manager 90,000/month seeks suitable bride. 9962310155/205

AGAMUDAIYAR MUDALIYAR, 44, Pooram, Simam, B.E., (E&C) 1 Lac Per Month, First Marriage, Own House, Seeks Suitable Alliance. Caste No Bar. No Brokers. Ct: 9600011225

IYENGAR 44/170 vadoclam, punarpoosam, working in MNC 15k/PM Seeks suitable bride Iyer/Iyengar 9940589443

Saiva Pillai 26/ 180 M Tech MNC Bangalore / Well Educated settled Parents seek Suitable Educated Employed Bride. Contact: 9442649298.

CNB, NADAR, 1980/165, M.A.B.L., HC, Advocate, Rich only son seeks Dr. Engg, Employed Bride. 94888 88819

CHETTIYAR, 24MANAI Telugu, MBA, 46, 5.4ft, young looking divorcee/ no kids, worked with all major Telecom companies as senior manager, now owns mid size Internet solutions Pvt Ltd company at Madurai with TRAI's Cat–C license, 30lacs p.a., own house, seeks bride below 42, unmarried, divorcee,widow, Caste no bar, Mob: 6379257390

HINDU DEVENDIRA kula vellalar M.E., 28/167 Asst. Engg. in PWD seeks suitable bride8248195168, 8667380725

MUDALIAR: 29/178, Handsome, B.E, MS (USA), Process Eng, MNC, USA, 100000$ PA, Affluent Family, Seeks Bride Abroad / India – 7305810258

IYER BOY, Bharadwaja Gothram, star Kettai, 32, 6.1 Ft, M.Tech, Puducherry Govt UDC, 9 lacs per annum, own house, Flat, Preference Graduate girl, Employment not must, Subsect no bar, No expectations Ct: 9443887454, 9789445577

TAMIL

TAMIL, 56 yrs Healthy, well settled, officers, Coimbatore Seeks independent well settled broadmindedLady above 42. as soulmate & companion ct: 7397087032 mducbe18@gmail.com

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL, MS USA, 30 Years 185 cm. Currently working in Germany as a Senior Logistics Manager. Employed prior in U.S.A for four years and two years in Dubai. Well Settled Family. Star Hastham & Backward Community. Seeks well Educated, Hindu Bride (Caste No Bar) for their only Son. Mobile 9840041041

NEVER MARRIED Iyer Brahmin, Kerala, 41 yrs, Kerala government service, seeks unmarried Brahmin bride 32–38 yrs 9400442475

IYER, 41 Years, Self employed Chartered Accountant earns 25lakhs per year. Right leg slightly short. He can walk and drive vehicle normally. Need Suitable Bride. Call 9994934568

MD (CLINICAL) Marathi Brahmin Boy 1990 5'10" Chennai Based Seeks Tamil Telugu Marathi Doctor Girl MD/MS(Clinical) & also State/ Central Govt Doctor's.Ct:9968267797/ 9968267792

BRAHMIN IYER VADULAM Uthiram Nov 1977 BSc (MCA) MNC, IT 24Lakh PA Seeks unmarried Brahmin Girl 9841071359

✔**IYER Vadama** Garga Ayilyam-2 1973 Sep 168cm S/w USA ,boy cmng June, seeks bride.9444915698,email: rukmani46@yahoo.com

BRAHMIN IYER 33 B.E (Mech) working in Mumbai, drawing 14 Lakhs per annum, Pooram 1st Padam (as per Vakia Panjangam Magham 4th padam) Kaundinya Gothram Father Brahacharanam Mother Vadama only Son Affluent Family, Own House Seeks Decent Employed Girl.Subsect No Bar. 9445005392 /9444865392

Iyer, Aailyam, Moudgalya Gothram, 25 years, 5.3".
Degree in Mass Communications, planning to do Masters, Presently Working in a Advertising Agency in Bengaluru with Income of Rs. 18 lacs per annum Seeks Suitable Educated Broad Minded Brahmin Bride.
Subsect No Bar
email: nimishamba22@gmail.com

BRIDE WANTED
IYER BRAHACHARANAM Bharadwajam Mirugasheerisham (Midhunam) 24.03.1988, 162 Cms. Fair B.E., MBA., Manager, Leading Company in Coimbatore Rs.1 Lakh/pm.
Expectation – Any Degree Girl from Decent Brahmin Family (Sect/ Sub-Sect No Bar) Job Not Important, No other Expectations
94444 51066
86082 62057

TAMIL

SC Arunthathiyar 29/180 cm M.Sc M.Phil Clinical Psychology working in Pvt Hospital, Cbe Rs.50K pm Own House, Seeks suitable educated Bride (Divorce Excuse) Ct: 9486100717.

NATTUKKOTTAI CHETTIAR 37yrs IT Mgr.(computer) Rs.12 Lakhs PA seeks Bride.CNB. 9884688588 / 8754548204

40yrs, Upper Middle Class Reddiar, M.E., working in US seeks unmarried girl. age 30-36, CNB. Ct: 9677071874

CENTRAL GOVT officer, Chennai 56yrs Hindu widower with 13yrs old daughter seeks suitable life partner, Caste, Community No Bar. Spinster, Divorcee, Widow without encumbrace preferred. Contact: 91235 30616

MUDALIAR 29/168, Kettai BE Mech Rs.55000 PM, own house CBE. Seeks Bride. Ct: 9597772439/ 8489272439.

MUDALIAR BOY Avittam, 29/177 B.E & P.G. Dip. Sr.SW Engr - American MNC - Chennai, Clean Habits seeks Educated Bride, well settled Family. Sub-sect No Bar.Watsap: 9444932577

TELUGU

39 Yrs, SC - Madiga Telugu Christian Chennai based Working in USA / Family Invtd Smart wkg life partner. Phone: 93908 45532

NEVER MARRIED, G/B Naidu, 42/183 LLB, B'lore based seeks same caste educated Bride below 35 yrs with good family background, call:9900655784.

RICH MILL Owners, Kamma Naidu27, B.Tech., own Spinning MillsWindmills Solar Firms etc., (Madurai) seeks Rich Bride 7200067015

GAVARA NAIDU, 38/180, Uthiradam, Maharam, B.E.,M.S(Engg), Chief Engr, MNC Chennai, 15L PA, First Marriage seeks Educated Bride. Ct:9487272897

Velanadu Vaidika Brahmin, Haritasa, Pushyami, SWE Looking for Suitable Unmarried Telugu Brahmin girl, age above 35y+ working or not working contact : Parvattamma, Plot No 121 F2 JJ Shelters 28th Street Shankar Nagar Pammal chennai 75.

NAIDU 27/177, Handsome, B.E, Industrialist, Business Family, 100.Cr Property, CNB. 7299576644, 7299576666

BALIJA 37/170 Moolam B.Com business 50K/pm own house, Chennai seeks educated good family bride 9840696452

TELUGU BRAHMIN 6000 NIYOGI Koundiya–34 yrs, 172 cms BE– Asst Mgr (5.5 LPA) Seeks suitable bride Subsect No Bar. Ct: 9620999580

URDU

ALLIANCE INVITED for our son, 28 yrs, 6ft, very fair, BBM Graduate, working in MNC Bangalore (6LPA), from an educated, religious, Urdu speaking decent family, from Karnataka, Andhra, Telangana, Tamil Nadu. Contact- 8088293949, 8861750596.

37 YRS Fair Urdu Sunni Muslim MS MCh Ortho Surgeon Chennai Divorced Seeking MD/MS Doctor Bride Ct: jafahmed33@gmail.com

MUSLIM DIVORCE Boy. 35/178 B.E MS(USA) Own Industry in Chennai & Abroad, Affluent family.9445556810

EliteMatrimony.com

Exclusive matchmaking service for the elite from Matrimony.com Group

ELITE BRIDES WANTED

PILLAI, 32, 178 cms, Entrepreneur, BBM from UK. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from Reddy community only. Contact: 6366448346

CASTE NO BAR/DEVAR, 27, 178 cms, Entrepreneur, B.Tech. Lives in Madurai. Father is a Businessman. Family is well settled. Looking for a well educated match. Contact: 6366448344

MUDALIYAR, 27, 180 cms, Doctor, MD/MS from a Reputed Medical College. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Mother is a Radiologist. Looking for a well educated match from Mudaliyar community with MS/ MD Doctors only. Contact: 6366448343

MUDALIYAR, 29, 168 cms, Government Job, B.Tech. Lives in Chennai. Mother is a Retired Banking Professional. Looking for a like minded working and educated match from Pillai/Mudaliyar community. Contact: 6366448345

CASTE NO BAR/ MUDALIYAR, 30, 175 cms, Software Professional, MS. Lives in Australia. Father is a Businessman. Family is affluent with a good net worth. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from any community. Contact: 6366448346

ELITE GROOMS WANTED

MUDALIYAR, 28, 163 cms, Doctor, MS(OG) from a Reputed Medical College. Lives in Ranipet. Father is a Businessman. Mother is a Homemaker. Looking for a well educated match from similar community in India. Contact: 6366448343

MUDALIYAR, 24, 163 cms, Not Working, Bachelors. Lives in Salem. Father is a Businessman. Looking for a like minded and well educated match from same community. Contact: 6366448344

NAIDU, 25, 160 cms, Architect, Pursuing M. Arch. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Professional. Family is affluent with good net worth. Looking for a compatible and well educated match from Naidu community only. Contact: 6366448346

NADAR, 22, 168 cms, Not working, MBA. Lives in Chennai. Father is a Businessman. Looking for a like minded Business and educated match from Nadar community. Contact: 6366448345

CASTE NO BAR, 25, 173 cms, Doctor, MD/MS. Lives in Salem. Father owns Hospital. Family is affluent with good net worth. Looking for a compatible and well educated Doctor match from any similar community. Contact: 6366448346

Call for Free Consultation ✆ 99629 76000

DOCTOR

37 YRS Fair Urdu Sunni Muslim MS MCh Ortho Surgeon Chennai Divorced Seeking MD/MS Doctor Bride Ct: jafahmed33@gmail.com

DOCTOR MD Radiology 35 years Hindu, Tamil , SC Pondicherry seeks Doctor Girl.Contact.7708756395

ENGLISH

HINDU IYER only son 33 / 6 ft MBA / upper middle class ,working in Pvt. sector (Pursuing Carnatic Music) in Chennai seeks alliance from Hindu girls. Language sub sect no bar. WhatsApp– 9342425663

HINDI

1985/175CM. IT. 30 Lakhs PA. Chennai. Father Doctor. Seeks well educated bride. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

MALAYALAM

BRAHMIN YOUTH 48 yrs / 5'4", Degree, own computer shop. Other caste & divorced also considerable. 9847704391.

WANTED HINDU Educated Employed Malayalee Bride for MBA Gold Medalist Groom 33yrs/178cms Own Business. Caste no Bar Ph: 9500042949/ 7397311660

TELUGU

NAIDU DIVORCEE No issues 1977 Slim, MNC Transfer Job, Caste no bar, Wanted Employed Groom. 9443344936

24 MANAI Telugu Chetty BE.MBA 25/162/55 working in pvt bank chennai. 9790919406 gplvasudevan@yahoo.com

Naidu Girl 30/158 with H1B Visa in USA from Educated Family Seek Alliance from Naidu Boy (Balija/ Kapu/ others) with PR/ H1B Visa Working in USA. Contact +91 8985039128.

TAMIL

RC VELLALAR B.Tech. 38 /172 Proprietor Fitness Centre Seeks Qualified & Employed Bride. Cast No bar. Ph. 9840266592

CHRISTIAN NADAR, 34yrs/178cms, MBBS with dip in Cardiology Private service good looking lives in Nagercoil, Divorcee seeks same caste qualified Bride/Divorcee above 28yrs. Ct: 90039 83230.

Christian Vellalar 31/183, Fair BE & BSc., Hotel Management, Asst.Manager in Reputed Hotel. Seeks working bride in any BC. Ph: 9444342703

CSI CHRISTIAN Nadar, Tirunelveli Dist well settled MS willing to live in USA 25yrs seeks bride from community, any professional. 9382266099

CSI CHRISTIAN NADAR GROUP 1, 27yrs/ 175, fair well settled family kanyakumari dist, Ct: 9443792181

MUSLIM DIVORCE Boy. 35/178 B.E MS(USA) Own Industry in Chennai & Abroad, Affluent family.9445556810

MUDALIAR AGE 32, March 1990,170 Cm,B.Tech,IT professional,12LPA, Rasi Thulam chithirai–3 Seeking Bride good looking Graduate Employed, Educated Family. Contact 9382617000.

TELUGU

NAIDU 25/167, Fair,Very Beautiful, B.E.50000, Business Family, 100.Cr Property,CNB. 7299576644,7299576666

YADAVA 28 B.Tech Girl Veg Chennai seek well settled family groom. Whatsapp Horoscope & Photo: 9791167005

URDU

SMU PARENTS Seeks Alliance PG Doctor, CA Groom for Daughter 27, Slim, Fair MS, Ophthal Working 9444024991

TAMIL

THULUVA NAIYAKAR Pooradam 39/154 Wheatish DME & Ac Fridge Mech. Own House/Job, Seeks bride. Caste No Bar. Cont: 9940630864

PILLAI MUDALIYAR Punarpoosam 35, 175 CM MCA Software MNC 3L / PM Bangalore Seeks Graduate Bride CT : 9176245009,8143351235

VANNIYAKULA KSHATRIYA Groom 34yrs B.A. 178cm Handsome. Own Business. Seeks Fair, Homely Bride. 8939140160

HINDU (AD), MBBS – 29 Fair – Pooradam, Kumbam (Seeks alliance) Ct:9940622977.

CHETTIAR (CNB) 29/175cm M.Tech MBA (UK) fair, Seeks BE/Medical professional Bride. Ct: 6381980158.

PROFESSIONAL WORKING in Chennai seeks graduate/post graduate woman aged bet. 45–50 years widow & divorcee. Caste religion no bar. 86673 87588

MUDALIAR, DIVORCE, 34 ,M.Tech, 14Lacs P.A,178cm, Smartseeks Suitable Bride,CNB Ct.8778514465/ 7200866346

PENSIONER 75, Expects Healthy Pious Life Partner around 70 Brahmin / Non Brahmin Woman Ct: 79048 21292

URDU

SEEKING PRACTICING SMU with no Dargah practices, never-married bridegroom, 36 yrs or below / 170cm or above, BE / BTech / MCA, IT professional, working abroad or in Tamil Nadu / Bangalore for my employed, MCA, MPhil educated, never-married, pious, upright by nature, 1987 born / 165cm good-looking daughter. Please write to : 90037 31213 or farhath_abbas@yahoo.com

SMU GIRL 27/165 B.Tech Team Lead MNC Chennai Seeks Suitable Alliance Contact: 9442141520 / kbegum6823@gmail.com

SITUATIONS VACANT

GENERAL

REQUIRED EXPERIENCED ITI candidates for Building Maintenance in Bengaluru- Supervisors (Electrical / A.C): Multi-Skilled Technicians (HVAC / Electrical); Handymen (Plumbing / Carpentry / Painting / Welding). Apply with details to hr@mfar.com T: +91 80 41217471

REQUIRED FULL Time, Stay-in & Educated Nanny to look after 5 Year Old Boy @ Chrompet, Chennai. 8667791580

GARMENTS

WANTED
◆ **ACCOUNTANT** Male/ Female (7-10yrs Exp)
◆ **FABRIC MERCHANDISE** Male/Female (5-7yrs Exp)
Location: Salem, TN, India
Accommodation: We Will Arrange For Male. Female Need to Take Hostel Co.
India Textiles (Fabric Textile Export)
93632 30963
Admin@Indiatexstyles.In

GENERAL

TENDERS

E-TENDER NOTICE

Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Pookode invites e-tenders for the supply of laboratory chemicals and other items. For more details, please visit the website www.etenders.kerala.gov.in. (Tender ID No. 2022_KVASU_494111_1). Our website: www.kvasu.ac.in

Sd/-
Director of Academics and Research

WATER PROOFING

WE-FIX: LEAKING Roof, Tank, Sump, Bathroom, Skylight, House Painting, Tiling, Carpentry, Epoxy, Civil Works. 9448572697

MEDICAL

JOSEPH HOSPITALS – Leading OBS & GYN Center in Chennai Requires Qualified Nurses (fresh or experienced) with interest in General duty, OP, O.T., Labour & Delivery ward – 8 hours shift duty, – Salary Rs.18000/– to 30000/– per month based on experience.Apply to Director, Joseph Hospitals 10A Guruswamy Road, Chetpet, Chennai –31.or askus@josephhospitals.com

WANTED RESIDENT / Junior Obstetrician and Gynecologist(MS, OG/DNB) For Aakash Hospital. Monthly Sal:2 Lakhs. Aakash Hospital, 393/1, TH.Road, Thiruvottiyur, Chennai-600019 Ct: 9500027501 / srkdraakash@gmail.com

WANTED EXPERIENCE Gynaecologist & Pediatrician. WCF Hospital T. Nagar, Chennai.Ct:7305244493, 8939497777 / Email : wcfhospital@gmail.com

TECHNICAL

✔ **GM PRODUCTION** required for Turned, Machined Parts Manufacturer in OMR, Oragadam. Thirumalai @baluauto.com. 9962074790. www.baluauto.com

TECHNICAL

WANTED ARCHITECTS, Draughtsman for European Architect's, Madipakkam, Chennai–91. Off: 8778383348, 9710935986 Email: thespan99@yahoo.com

FINANCE

MANAGER FINANCE & ACCOUNTS

A well established Private Limited company in Chennai requires Graduates / Post Graduates in commerce. Preference C.A. Intermediate with minimum 20 years of exp. in manufacturing company. Age below 45 years, well experienced in Finance & Accounts, Direct & Indirect Taxation, filing GST independently, Company Law, experienced in factories Act, PF, ESI, etc. and should be able to operate independently with good administrative abilities. Fluency in written and spoken English is a must. This is a senior position with attractive pay package and scope for advancement.

ACCOUNTS OFFICERS

Graduates/Post Graduates in Commerce with about 5 years experience in Accounts in Manufacturing sector, Direct & Indirect Taxation, GST operation including monthly Return filing, age below 32 years and fluency in written and spoken English must.

Apply giving details of salary received and expected to fdf12010@gmail.com along with other personal details within 10 days

Areas around K.R. Puram bear the brunt of floods again

Over 20 bikes parked near a theatre damaged after compound wall collapses

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Heavy rains that lashed parts of the city on Friday night, especially Mahadevapura and Yelahanka zones, unleashed havoc in its wake. Areas in K.R. Puram, which suffered the maximum damage during the May 16-17 rains, again bore the brunt of heavy rains on Friday night.

Horamavu (146.5 mm) and K.R. Puram (127.5 mm) recorded the highest rainfall in the State on Friday, mostly between 9 p.m. and 11.30 p.m.. During the May 16-17 rains too, Horamavu recorded the highest rainfall.

Several apartments were flooded in K.R. Puram, with water stagnating in basements damaging hundreds of cars and bikes. Residents deploying motors to pump out water was a common sight in the area on Saturday. In another incident, over 20 bikes parked near a theatre were damaged as a compound wall collapsed over it on Friday night.

The BBMP said nearly 400 houses in Sai Layout, Gururaja Layout, Pai Layout and other adjoining areas in K.R. Puram, which were flooded during the May 16-17 rains, were flooded again with knee-deep water. "The area has water above the knee again. All the ground floor houses are submerged. As usual, all electrical appliances are under water. There is no electricity from Friday night. Now there is a sense of deja vu with every rain," said John, a resident of Sai Layout.

Sai Layout inundated after heavy rain in Bengaluru, on Saturday; (below) More than 23 two-wheelers were damaged after a wall collapsed on them. • PTI &SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"The BDA is widening a drain under the railway underpass at Sai Layout, which will solve flooding in the area. We will soon find a permanent solution and till then, it is tough to avoid water logging in the area," said BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath.

Urban Development Minister and K.R. Puram MLA Byrathi Basavaraj, who visited the flood-hit areas, faced the ire of residents who complained that no preventive measures were taken to prevent floods after the May 16 incident. Mr. Basavaraj assured them that interventions to prevent flooding were already set into motion and all works would be completed by March 2023.

Singapura lake, near Vidyaranyapura, overflowed and this led to the compound wall of an apartment complex – Commanders' Glory – to collapse flooding the complex. "Water gushed into the apartment complex and this caused the compound wall to collapse. There was knee-deep water on Saturday morning. Now the water inflow has stopped after the civic body brought in a JCB and put a block to stop the flow from the lake," said Anil, a resident of the apartment complex.

The BBMP, in a statement, said there was water logging on several roads in Vidyaranyapura and water gushed into over 30 houses in the area.

Youth drives car into lake, dies

M.Tech student was on his way to Hassan

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

A youth was killed in a freak accident when he drove his car into a lake during heavy rains on Friday night in Tavarekere, on the outskirts of the city.

The deceased Prajwal, 24, an M.Tech student and a resident of Nagarabhavi, was driving his friend Ravichandra's car and they were on their way to Hassan when the accident happened.

"While coming near Devamachohalli lake, Prajwal was speeding and took the car to the right of the road and the car fell into the lake. I opened the door and came out swimming. But Prajwal couldn't," Ravichandra said in his complaint to the Tavarekere police.

A senior police official said as the Devamachohalli Road was being widened into a four lane road, there was slush and water logging on the road on Friday night.

'No street lights'

"The car driver seems to have not realised that he has taken a steep right turn to the lake, adjoining the road. He may have mistaken it to be water stagnating on the road. Moreover, there are no street lights on the stretch," the police official said.

The Fire and Emergency Services fished out the car and Prajwal's body from the lake on Saturday morning.

NDRF personnel conducting a search operation in a drain for the 24-year-old who was washed away, on Saturday. • PTI

Where have all the funds gone, asks HDK

'Minister, BBMP to blame for rain woes'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Holding the Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj and the BBMP responsible for the rain-related fiasco in K.R. Puram, the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday sought to know the status of funds that have flown into the K.R. Puram constituency in the last nine years and urged a comprehensive inquiry into fund utilisation.

"Funds have flown into K.R. Puram constituency like a river over the last nine years. The works are only on paper and where is the account for it?" the former Chief Minister asked in a series of tweets. Mr. Basavaraj represents K.R. Puram constituency in the Legislative Assembly. "Will it not be known when encroachers of rajakaluves are protected and sympathy drama for rain victims is played out?"

He said that the K.R. Puram constituency had "become a swimming pool" during rains one month ago and threatened brand Bengaluru. "Same situation prevails in the constituency today. The death of the youth who had come to the city in search of livelihood shows that the Silicon City is not safe. The youth's family has to be compensated adequately," he said.

Applications invited

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Bengaluru City University has invited applications from eligible candidates for one-year Library Apprentice trainees in its library for the academic year 2022-23.

BCU said that candidates with Master of Library and Information Science from any recognised university can download the application from www.bcu.ac.in. Candidates should submit applications to Registrar, Bengaluru City University, Central College campus, Bengaluru-560001 by June 24. For details, call 080-22961016.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client MS. SONALI MOHAPATRA, D/o Sri. Abhimanyu Mohapatra has intend to purchase of the schedule property mentioned hereunder for a valuable consideration with its owner 1) SRI.BALAPPA, 2) SRI.GUNDAPPA both are sons of Sri. Chikkaramaiah @ Chikkaramaiah Reddy and their children are rep. by their GPA holder M/s. SMAYA BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS, and M/s. SMAYA BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS having its office At No. 1891/B, 25th A Cross, 19th Main, 2nd Sector HSR Layout, Bangalore 560102, represented by its Partner, Sri. H.N. Manju.

If any persons having any claims, right, title and interest whatsoever over the schedule property may forward their objections to the undersigned in writing with supporting documents of your such claims, within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which it will be deemed that there are no claims, right, title and interest by anybody and my client will proceed for completion of sale transaction and thereafter no claims will be considered.

SCHEDULE

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF the Residential property bearing SITE NO. 51, measuring East to West 12 Mtrs. (39.37 Feet), North to South 9 Mtrs. (29.52 Feet), totally measuring 1162 Sq. Feet, in the Layout known as "SMAYA JADE NESTER" formed in converted Land bearing Sy. Nos. 119 & 120, situated at Rayasandra Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, and bounded on the: East By : Site No.45, West By : 40 Feet Road, North By : Site No.50, South By : Site No.52.

MANJUNATHA & ASSOCIATES
K. N. MANJUNATHA CHARY, ROOPA. B, & B.N. JAGADISH KUMAR, Advocates,
98, 1st Floor, 1st Main, 4th Cross,
Maruthi Nagar, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068
Mob: 9845965626, 7406090832

BANGALORE, DATE : 18-06-2022

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No Y/E.29/2022-23/04 Date 14.06.2022.

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
KBPR- Construction of staff quarters Type-IV-Two units for SSE/Works & SSE/P.way and SKLR- Construction of staff quarters Type-IV One units for SSE/works- Electrical Arrangements.	Rs.6,09,176/-

Last Date of Submission of bids: Up to 11:00 hrs. on 08.07.2022

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer
Mysuru

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. UBLS-E-03-2022-23 Date 13.06.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following work:

Name of work	Approx. Value
UBLS: Repairs of Traction Alternator TA7003 CW (BHEL make) of DEMU DPC.	Rs.15,79,430/-

Last Date of Submission of bids: Up to 15:00 hrs. on 05.07.2022

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Electrical Engineer, Carriage Repair Workshop, Hubballi

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that my client Dr. Vinay D. is intending to purchase the Schedule Property from Mr.P.Raghunathan.

Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of Schedule Property is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 10 days from the date of this publication of his / her / their claim, if any, with all supporting documents failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim and the claims, if any of such person shall be considered as waived and not binding on my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the residential vacant site bearing No.381 (PID No. : 55-436-381) situated at 2nd Cross, 5th Block, 3rd Phase, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bangalore in all measuring 322.83 Sq.Mtrs. bounded as follows : East by : Road, West by : Private Property, North by : Site No.382, South by : Site No.380.

Sateesh S. Advocate
No.624, 2nd Floor, 15th Main, 24th Cross,
BSK II Stage, Bengaluru - 560070

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

NOTIFICATION NO.565/STBA/05/2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites sealed applications for engagement of Station Ticket Booking Agents (STBA) at the following Railway Stations over Bengaluru Division of South Western Railway for issuing of Unreserved/General Tickets through Unreserved Ticket System (UTS) on commission basis for a period of Three (03) years:

Name of the Station	Station Code
Sampige Road	SPGR
Channasandra	CSDR

Date and Time of Submission of application: From 10.00 hours to 15:00 hrs. of 20.07.2022

For details log on : www.swr.indianrailways.gov.in

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager
Bengaluru

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. SWR/W/TS/2022/06/E Date 13.06.2022

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following supplies:

Description of work	Approx. Value
Item-A: Manufacture and supply of Metal Liner to Drg. No. RDSO/T-3740 Alt-6 with IRS Specification for Metal Liners for use with Elastic Rail Clips MK-III flat toe on concrete sleeper for 60 Kg rails.	Rs.3,86,22,846/-
Item-B: Manufacture and supply of Metal Liner to Drg. No. RDSO/T-3741 Alt-6 (Gauge side liner) and T-3742 Alt6 (Non Gauge side liner) with IRS Specification for Metal Liners for use with Elastic Rail Clips MK-III flat toe on 60kg concrete sleeper with 52 kg rails. (E-tender no. SWRTS063740)	

Last Date of Submission of bids: Up to 15:00 hrs. on 12.07.2022

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in

Deputy Chief Engineer /Track Procurement/HQ
Hubballi

S.W.Railways SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of my client Mr.D.S.Manegowda, S/o Mr. Late Somappa bring to the notice of the general public that the original Sale Deed bearing doc No.202/1966-91, dated 04.05.1990, Book I, Volume no.1843, Page Nos.64-66, registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar Hosakote is lost.

If any person/s, firm, company, institution or organization has any claim are holding the afore mentioned document, they shall return the same or contact the undersigned in writing within 07 days from the date of this notice failing which it will be presumed that there are no claims.

Schedule : All the piece and parcel of assessment No.12, Site No.12, formed in Sy No.66, situated at Devalapura Village, Anugondanahalli Hobli, Hosakote Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, measuring East to West 41.5 ft & North to South (101+100)/2 ft totally measuring 4170.5 Sqft and bounded on:

East by : Site No.10, West by : Site No.14, North by : Devalapura High School Land, South by : 40 ft Road

Rashmi.R, Advocate,
No.07, 1st Floor, 2nd Main, Kalyananagar, Nagarabhavi Main Road, Bangalore-72.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

AUCTION PROGRAMME NOTICE No: S/XIII/02/2022-23

Following is the Schedule of E-Auction to be held in the month of July, August and September-2022 for Sale of on-line and Depot Scrap under the jurisdictions General Stores Depot/Hubballi and Mechanical General Stores Depot/Ashokpuram depots and Hubballi, Mysuru and Bengaluru Divisions of South Western Railway.

Types of Auction	Venue	July-2022		August-2022		September-2022	
E-Auction (From 9:00 Hrs)	General Stores Depot/Hubballi	4th	18th	1st	16th	1st	15th
	Mechanical General Stores Depot/Ashokpuram (Mysuru)	14th	28th	10th	24th	5th	19th
	Hubballi Division	12th	26th	11th	25th	7th	21st
	Bengaluru Division	6th	20th	2nd	17th	6th	20th
	Mysuru Division	5th	19th	4th	18th	8th	22nd

For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in/E-auction.

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Hubballi

S.W.Railways sw_rly SWRRLY southwesternrailway SWRRLY

SAINIK SCHOOL KODAGU
(Under Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India)
PO Kudige Dist: Kodagu, Karnataka PIN: 571232

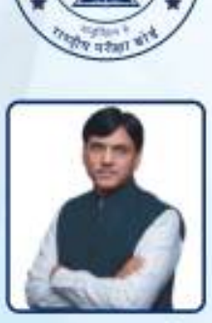
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW :: TEMPORARY PERIOD

A walk-in-interview will be conducted for the post of PGT (MATHEMATICS) and TGT (SOCIAL SCIENCE) in Sainik School Kodagu on **28 Jun 2022** (TUESDAY). Interested candidates are to report to Sainik School Kodagu between **0900 to 1100 hrs** on **28 Jun 2022** along with original and copies of Qualifications and Experience Certificates. These posts are purely on temporary basis wef 01 Jul 2022 to 30 Sep 2022. Salary as per rules of the School. For detailed Notification and Application Form, visit School website **www.sainikschoolkodagu.edu.in** from **19 Jun 2022** (Sunday). The School administration reserves the right to cancel the vacancy due to administrative reasons.

PRINCIPAL

आयुर्विज्ञान में राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा बोर्ड
(स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार के अधीन एक स्वायत्त निकाय)
NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICAL SCIENCES
(Autonomous body under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)

आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव



डॉ मनसुख मांडविया
माननीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री
रसायन एवं उर्वरक मंत्री, भारत सरकार
Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare
Chemicals and Fertilizers, Govt. of India

डॉ भारती प्रविण पवार
माननीय केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण राज्य मंत्री
भारत सरकार
Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar
Hon'ble Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare
Govt. of India

21st दीक्षांत समारोह
Convocation

Chief Guest
Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
Hon'ble Minister of Health & Family Welfare
Chemicals and Fertilizers, Govt. of India

Guest of Honour
Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar
Hon'ble Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India

Special Guest
Dr. M. R. Girinath
Apollo Hospitals Group

Shri. Rajesh Bhushan
Secretary
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India

सोमवार, 20 जून 2022 (9:30 AM)
डॉ. अम्बेडकर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय केंद्र, 15 जनपथ, नई दिल्ली
Monday, 20th June 2022 (9:30 AM)
Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, 15 Janpath, New Delhi

डॉ एम. आर. गिरिनाथ
अपोलो अस्पताल समूह
Dr. M. R. Girinath
Apollo Hospitals Group

श्री राजेश भूषण
सचिव
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Shri. Rajesh Bhushan
Secretary
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India

डॉ अभिजात सेठ
अध्यक्ष
आयुर्विज्ञान में राष्ट्रीय परीक्षा बोर्ड
Dr. Abhijat Sheth
President
National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences

Setting the bar high

Science stream

Simran Sesha Rao

RV PU college, (NMKRV campus-Jayanagar), Bengaluru

598/600

Arts stream

Swetha Bhimashankar Bairyakond

Indu Independent PU college, Kotturu, Ballari district

594/600

Madiwalra Sahana

Commerce stream

Neelu Singh

BGS PU college, Bengaluru

596/600

Akash Das

St. Claret Composite PU college, Bengaluru

596/600

Neha

SBGNS PU college, Chickballapur

596/600

Manava Vinay Kejriwal

Jain PU college, Jayanagar, Bengaluru

596/600

SNIPPETS

Unaided colleges perform well

BENGALURU

In the college-wise results, unaided colleges posted the best performance. Government PU colleges had a pass percentage of 52.84, aided PU colleges 62.05, unaided PU colleges 76.50, corporation PU colleges 55.72, and bifurcated PU colleges 72.96.

Special students shine

Amongst students with special needs, with 78%, those with cerebral palsy had the highest pass percentage. Out of 18 students who appeared for the examination, 14 passed. A total of 259 visually-challenged students also completed their II PU exam with a pass percentage of 63.32. Students with multiple disabilities and locomotor challenges fared well with a pass percentage of 52.56 and 36.89, respectively.

Apply for scanned copy

The last date to apply for the scanned copy of the answer scripts is June 30. Students will be allowed to download the scanned copy of the answer scripts from July 6 to 10. The last date of applying for revaluation, retotalling is July 13. The department has announced that online payment facility is available.

Supplementary exam

The Department of Pre-University Education (DPUE) has decided to conduct the II PU supplementary examination from August 1. The department will release the supplementary examination schedule soon.

29,020 students absent

This year, a total of 29,020 students were absent for the II PU examination out of the 6,84,382 registered students, while 819 students withdrew.

FROM PAGE ONE

Pass percentage improves marginally

In 2019, the pass percentage was 61.73%, while in 2020, it was 61.80%. Due to COVID-19, in 2021 the government passed all the students without examination.

This year, no student managed to score full marks. As many as 6,086 students got grace marks up to five in all the subjects.

As many as 91,106 students got distinction (above 85%), 2,14,115 got first class (60% to below 85%), 68,444 second class (50% to below 60%), and 49,301 students got pass class (below 50%).

Stream-wise, in Arts, the pass percentage stood at 48.71%, for Commerce 64.97%, and in Science it was 72.53% .

As is usually the case, the pass percentage of girls (68.72%) was higher than that of the boys (55.22%). Rural students (62.18%) performed better than their urban counterparts (61.78%).

THE HINDU

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Dakshina Kannada tops in II PU examination

Udupi ranks second with 86.38% students passing the exam

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Dakshina Kannada topped the score card among districts in Karnataka with 88.02% students passing the II PU exams, followed by Udupi with 86.38%.

The two districts stood at the top of the table in the previous examination results too. With pass percentage of 90.71, the two coastal districts were jointly ranked first in the examination held for the academic year 2019-20.

In the 2018-2019 exam results, Dakshina Kannada district came second with a pass percentage of 90.91 and Udupi was first with pass percentage of 92.2.

Dip in pass percentage

Many districts saw a drop in pass percentage. Bengaluru South was in the fourth place with 76.24%, a dip from the earlier 77.56%. Uttara Kannada also saw a similar drop, from 80.97 to 74.33% and Bengaluru North District from 75.54% to 72.01%.

Many districts saw an improvement in performance. Vijayapura, which was last in the academic year of 2019-20, achieved the third spot this year with 77.14%.

Chikkodi educational district also gained, ranking 11th with 68% compared to its earlier 63.88%, Koppal 62.04% from 60.90% and Kalaburagi 58.27% to 59.17%. Raichur improved to 57.97% from 56.22%.

This year, the performance of the Chitradurga was poor, ranked last in the list with 49.31%. In the academic year 2019-20, this district had 30th place out of 32 in the rank list with 56.80%.

District-wise percentage of results

TOP FIVE

District	April / May 2022 (in %)	March - 2020 (in %)
Dakshina Kannada	88.02	90.71
Udupi	86.38	90.71
Vijayapura	77.14	54.22
Bengaluru South	76.24	77.56
Uttara Kannada	74.33	80.97

BOTTOM FIVE

District	April / May 2022 (in %)	March - 2020 (in %)
Tumakuru	58.9	62.26
Mandya	58.77	63.82
Raichur	57.93	56.22
Ballari	55.48	62.02
Chitradurga	49.31	56.80

Toppers attribute success to time management, regular revision

ARCHITA LAKHOTIA
ADITHI HOLLA
BENGALURU

After two years of hard work, the toppers of the II PU examinations are elated after receiving their results. All of them stated that time management was key to their success while admitting that everyday revisions kept them sharp for the final examinations. While Simran Sesha Rao is the sole topper in the Science stream, there were two toppers in the Arts stream and four toppers in Commerce.

A student of NMKRV PU College in Bengaluru, Simran said that she was feeling ecstatic and overwhelmed after securing the highest marks of 598 out of 600 in Karnataka.

She credited her success to her college, faculty and her family members who supported her throughout the two years. "I made a lot of sacrifices in these two years - from missing out on family gatherings to having no time to pursue my hobbies.

"Now, it is all worth it," she exclaimed. Following in the footsteps of her parents, she wants to pursue computer science engineering.

Simran Sesha Rao, topper in Science stream, with her parents. • K. MURALI KUMAR

Commerce toppers said that they found their papers to be easy, although they said they spent many months preparing for their exams.

"I was consistent in my preparation and mostly relied on the notes given by my teachers. I also noted down my own key points to remember important topics. To ensure I am not nervous, I treated these exams like regular exams. I have now enrolled for my B.com degree," said Maanav Vinay Kejriwal, who studied in Jain PU College, Jayanagar.

This CA/CMA aspirant scored a perfect 100 in Accountancy, Business studies and Economics.

Ambition and hard work

Believing that concentrating on one's ambition coupled with hard work will lead to success, Akash Das, who scored a total of 596 marks, said that planning and dedication helped him ace the examination. "Ensuring that you have a proper timetable and proper time management is a must. I studied 3-5 hours daily, and was focused completely and utilised the last one month. Right now, I am preparing for my CA foundation exam which is to be held next week. I am planning to do pursue my B.com degree along with CA", he said. Neelu Singh, who secured 99.3% (Commerce), opted for self-study and did not take any extra coaching classes. She said that her continuous revisions throughout the year helped her ace her exams. Giving out a piece of advice to her juniors, the student of BGS PU College said, "The papers are mostly easy, if you study properly and efficiently. For my juniors, I would only like to say, study bit by bit and do not keep everything planned for the last moment. As for my future, I am planning to study BCA ."

She also secured 100 marks in Economics, Computer Studies and Business studies.

The other commerce topper, Neha Ramaswamy of BGS PU College, who aims to become a CA and also train for civil services, said her 3 am preparations helped her get 596 in her exams.

"Maintaining a proper timetable is necessary, and with that I ensured is that I gave equal time to both enjoyment and studies. I used to cover the topics for each subject in one day, and then moved on to the next subject," she said.

Papad maker's daughter among Science toppers

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
MANGALURU

The daughter of a papad maker and seller in Udupi has emerged a topper in the science stream in the II PU exam.

Bhavya Nayak from Poornaprajna PU College, Udupi, daughter of Narayana Nayak and Uma, is among four students from the State who scored 597 marks and are placed in the second position.

Bhavya was also among the four toppers in the SSLC examination in the State two years ago.

Mr. Nayak has been preparing and distributing papad from his house in Ambagilu of Udupi district for the last 30 years. "I am happy that my effort has paid dividends and my daughter has become a topper," he said. Bhavya secured 100 marks in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, and in Sanskrit and got 97 marks in English. "I revised my lessons every day. It helped me remember them well," she said.

Bhavya Nayak

She wants to become an engineer like her sister Pavithra Nayak. Bhavya has written the Common Entrance Test and is preparing for the Joint Entrance Examination (Main).

Kottur's Indu PU College bags first rank in Arts

College continues to maintain its record

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

The newly formed Vijayanagara district has put up an impressive show in the Arts stream by bagging most of the top positions.

While all the 11 students who shared the first four positions are from North Karnataka, eight among them are from the Vijayanagara district and among the eight, six are from Indu PU College in Kottur.

Two secure top position

Shwetha Bhimashankar Bhairagond and Madivalara Sahana have shared the top position by scoring 594 marks out of 600 and both are from Indu PU College.

Last time too, the top six positions in the Arts stream were shared by 13 students and all of them belonged to the undivided Ballari district, and 10 among them were from Indu PU College, including the three who secured the top three positions.

The college has been maintaining the position in Arts stream for the last seven years.

"It is the seventh consecutive year that our college has bagged the first rank to remain in the top position in the Arts stream. I would like to attribute the success to the collective efforts of students, teachers and parents," Veerabhadrappa H.N., administrator of the college, told *The Hindu*.

PU results: More students score centum in Mathematics

Least number of students scored centum in English

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU/MANGALURU

Although no one secured a total out-of-out score (600/600) this year in the II PU exams, thousands of students secured centum marks in different subjects across Karnataka.

Many students seemed to have done well in Mathematics as a whopping 14,210 students secured 100 out of 100 in the subject, while 401 students secured the same in Basic Mathematics paper.

Computer science (which is common amongst both science and commerce combination) had 4,868 students scoring 100, while Accountancy (3460) and Chemistry (2917) were some of the other subjects under which a higher number of students scored full marks in the II PU examinations.

Most trends in terms of centum were quite predictable. Among languages, out of out marks were mostly obtained by students who have chosen Sanskrit (1119).

This was followed by Kannada and Hindi where 563 students and 124 students, respectively, achieved centum. As many as 18 optional Kannada students also added a hundred to their marks sheets this year.

Interestingly, the number of students who scored 100 in French is more (32) than those who did in English (2). English is also the subject under which least number of people scored hundred.

Gender-wise result

Year	Boys	Girls
2022 April / May	55.22%	68.72%
2020 March	54.77%	68.73%

Combination-wise results

Arts	48.71%
Commerce	64.97%
Science	72.53%
Total	61.88

Results in commerce stream

Under commerce stream, Business Studies have had 2,837 toppers from across the State while statistics has had 2,266 top performers. Considered in both commerce and arts combinations, 1472 students have secured full marks Economics. Biology (2106), Education (658) and Geography (587) are some of the other subjects which had many centum scorers this year.

The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling in State from June 25

20th edition of the event will be held at 10 locations in nine cities

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

The 20th edition of The Hindu Education Plus Career Counselling 2022 Karnataka will be held at 10 locations in nine cities in June and July. The event will cover educational topics like CET, COMEDK, NEET, general education (offbeat courses), Law, Pure Science, Arts, Science & Commerce, Management, PGDM, Engineering & Medicine.

The event sets a benchmark in educational and professional guidance.

It acts as a platform to connect students and parents with speakers and educational institutions.

The event also helps students to take the right decisions after getting the necessary counselling and guidance from experts.

Event sponsors

Platinum Sponsor for the event is Presidency University, Bangalore

Silver Sponsors for the event are: ACS College of Engineering, Bangalore; K. S. Group of Institutions, Bangalore; Rajarajeswari College of Engineering, Bangalore; Siddaganga Institute of Technology, Tumkur; Soundarya Institute of Management and Science, Bangalore; Universal Group of Institutions, Bangalore, and Atria Institute of Technology, Bengaluru. Other associate Sponsors are: CMR University, Bangalore, Karnataka State Open Univeristy, Mysuru; and Shaheen Group of Institutions, Bidar.

Timings and details

The timings for registration is between 8.30 a.m. and 9.30 a.m. The event will be held between 9.30 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more details about thr event, contact following mobile numbers: 9739273958 / 9448160126 / 9448871815 Entry for the event is free. First 300 walk-ins will get a surprise gift. All participating students will get free English proficiency test, STEP.

Schedule

Place	Date
Bengaluru North	June 25
Mangaluru	June 25
Kalaburagi	June 25
Tumakuru	June 26
Bidar	June 26
Bengaluru South	July 2
Hubballi	July 2
Ballari	July 3
Mysuru	July 3
Davangere	July 3

Cutting master's son secures third rank in Science stream

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

Mohammad Qhizer brought laurels to Kalaburagi by securing the third rank in the State in the science stream in the II PU examination.

Qhizer, a student of Sri Guru Independent PU college, secured 596 out of 600 marks. He scored centums in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, and Hindi language, while he got 99 in Biology and 97 in English.

His father Mohammad Ghousuddin works as a cutting master in a private garment company.

"I used to wake up at 4 a.m. for studies, and even after college hours, I used to study till late at night. The online classes during the pandemic, the notes, and preparatory examinations conducted in the college helped me perform well," he said.

Mohammad Qhizer being felicitated in Kalaburagi on Saturday. • ARJUN KULKARNI

Minister for Primary and Secondary Education B.C. Nagesh congratulated Qhizer over phone and expressed support for his future studies.

Labourer's son bags 2nd rank in Arts

STAFF REPORTER
KALABURAGI

Ninganna Siddanna Agasar, who scored 593 marks in Arts stream and secured the second rank attributed his success to his teachers and parents who stood by him and encouraged him to perform better.

Ninganna comes from a humble family background; his father Siddanna and mother Boramma are agriculture labourers.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, he said he studied for six to seven hours a day, revised lessons from day one, and inputs given by teachers helped him perform well. He aspires to become an IAS officer.

Published by N. Ravi at Kasturi Buildings, 859 & 860, Anna Salai, Chennai-600002 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RN No. RAREMG/1970/45960 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

ADVERTISEMENT

Karnataka's growth gathers pace with Centre's assistance

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is on a two-day visit to Karnataka on June 20 and 21. He will participate in several programmes and also launch developmental projects in Bengaluru and Mysuru.

PM Modi will dedicate India's first and only fully air-conditioned railway station Sir M. Visveswaraya Railway Terminal to the nation on June 20.

He will unveil the bronze statue of Dr. B. R Ambedkar and inaugurate newly built campus at Dr. B. R Ambedkar School of Economics, Bengaluru, modelled on the prestigious London School of Economics. He will dedicate upgraded 150 ITIs to the nation, participate in ground-breaking ceremony at Kommaghatta to mark the launch of Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP).

PM Modi will celebrate International Day of Yoga in Mysuru. His packed schedule has several other such programmes.

Generally, PM Modi's speeches focus on a healthy relationship between Centre and States, collaborative federalism and the effectiveness of 'double-engine Sarkar' in BJP-ruled States. PM Modi and Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj S Bommai share inspiring relationship. Recently, PM Modi lauded the precious efforts of Mr. Bommai after the party won three Rajya Sabha seats and he added, this contribution from Karnataka would inspire further good work. Mr. Bommai too has high praises for PM Modi. He recently said PM Modi has heralded new era of development in the country with his sterling leadership. He further said that Modi has brought new transformation to the country by providing basic amenities for the people, good education, and health services. The PM's Atma Nirbhar pitch has given a new direction to the nation to emerge strong.

ATTRACTING INVESTORS: *Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai meeting investors at recently held World Economic Forum summit in Davos. Large and Medium Industries Minister Murugesh Nirani is also seen.*

Karnataka received record fund allocation to the tune of Rs. 1.29 lakh crores from Modi-led government at Centre in the last eight years

Record fund allocation

The Modi-Bommai combination, the 'double-engine sarkar' is on track to deliver speedy progress to Karnataka. From 2014 to 2022, in eight years, the Modi-led government at Centre has allocated over Rs. 1.29 lakh crores excluding devolution, GST compensation Finance Commission grants and others. In eight years, Rs. 33,678 crores was the fund allocation for rural development, while Rs. 27,418 crores under MGNREGA. For agriculture, the allocated funds was Rs. 19,374 crores and for urban development, the fund allocation was Rs. 13,960 crores. The health, women and child development received financial assistance of Rs. 17,669.15 crores. While one lakh crore was spent on improvement of 6,189 kms of national highways, over Rs. 50,000 crores was allocated to develop highways. The list goes on.

The record fund allocation facilitated Karnataka's various ministries and departments to launch several pro-people, novel, unique initiatives and programmes.

For example, under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) record person days were generated. The programme that comes under Rural Development and Panchayat Raj acted as catalyst in realising dreams of people living in rural areas. PM Modi's 'Catch the rain' concept was implemented effectively under MGNREGS and it has set an example nationwide. State level conference was held at Hubballi to understand the importance of conservation of water under 'Jalshakti Abhiyan'. It led to taking up of about five lakh water conservation works under the scheme which now has become a model to the nation. During visits, the people living in rural Karnataka had appealed to officials to rejuvenate defunct Kalyanis under the scheme. The rejuvenation works were completed in record time.

Boost to infra

The urban development too received a major boost. A slew of programmes and projects for the planned development of cities and towns. Special thrust is given for the integrated development of Bengaluru and other small and medium towns. Mr. Bommai launched the Amrit Nagarotthana Scheme, and allocated an amount of Rs. 6,000 crores to take up important infrastructure works in Bengaluru. The BBMP will implement projects in a phased manner over five years.

The amount is allocated to improve roads, lakes, stormwater drains, parks, buildings, solid waste management, street lights and also development slums. To address the infrastructure needs in small and medium towns, an amount of Rs. 3,885 crores was allocated under the same scheme. The government also of the view that it was important to improve municipal services at these local bodies. The initiative would help plan, regulate, control, monitor and facilitate development for creating major infrastructure facilities, development of residential layouts, constructions of houses for under privileged people, and rejuvenation of lakes in towns and cities.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently completed eight years in office, while Mr. Bommai is in his first year. Their inspiring relationship should pave the way for a vibrant India and Karnataka.

Institute of excellence in honour of Architect of Indian Constitution

The newly built campus of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics, Bengaluru will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

A fully residential, unique university focusing only on economics and social sciences, established in memory and honour of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the Architect of Indian Constitution, has come up in Garden City.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the newly built campus of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar School of Economics, Bengaluru on June 20. PM Modi will also unveil the 22-feet (including 10 feet pedestal), bronze statue of Bharat Ratna Dr. Ambedkar. The institute of excellence, established in 2017 as part of 125th birth anniversary celebrations of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, was later upgraded to Unitary University in 2019.

The sprawling campus, located on 43.35 acres, has 13 blocks and houses administration, academic, faculty, Hostel blocks beside student centre and library. The campus was built at a cost of Rs. 201.25 crores. The Institute boasts of a faculty that comes with rich teaching experience and some even providing research inputs significantly to public policy making. Some faculty members have undertaken policy relevant research.

Their work has helped both Centre and various state governments and a few regulatory bodies such as RBI and SEBI. To showcase the faculty research, University has initiated 'BASE Working Paper Series' and until now, 15 working papers have been brought forth and they are available online for wider circulation.

It also has a well-stocked library with equal number of books as well as e-books and other learning resources in the form of CDs, DVDs, MOOC and so on.

The University entered into MoUs with National Law School of India University (NLSIU), Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy Analysis, Bhopal, and Standing Conference of Public Enterprises (ScOPE) on research collaboration and knowledge sharing.

It is also in the process of signing MOUS with other reputed institutes including National Stock Exchange (NSE) and other foreign universities that will lead to faculty and student exchange programmes.

The University that aims to attain global recognition as institution of excellence in the field of higher education has adopted National Education Policy (NEP).

The University offers three courses - five-year integrated M.Sc. Economics, two-year M.Sc. Economics and two-year M.Sc. Financial Economics with an intake of 75, 20 and 30 students respectively. The University is planning to start Ph.D programme soon.

Upskilling youth in new technologies

Karnataka. Government in partnership with Tata Technologies Limited (TTL) and 20 Industry partners has launched a programme to transform 150 government-run Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) into technology hubs in consonance with Industry 4.0 requirements.

The programme is a first-of-its-kind initiative in India to enhance the quality of industrial training and create skilled workforce across Karnataka.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will dedicate 150 such upgraded ITIs to the nation at a function to be held in Bengaluru.

New equipments and advanced software are installed for new courses in 16 emerging sectors. Advanced technology labs have been established in each of these ITIs in the areas of additive manufacturing, automotive manufacturing and battery electric vehicles, industrial robotics with arc welding, product design and verification, advanced manufacturing systems, Internet of Things, industrial automation and control, and advance plumbing. In all, 23 short-term courses and 11 long-term courses have been introduced in these ITIs.

Every year, 60,000 students in long-term courses and 120000 students in short-term courses are undergoing training in these ITIs. Short-term courses are being offered under PMKVY programme.

Suburban rail service to boost Bengaluru's economic activity

Bengaluru's economic activity will get a major boost with the launch of suburban rail service that aims to connect Bengaluru city with suburbs and satellite townships.

The project launched under Bengaluru Suburban Rail Project (BSRP) is expected to carry 10 lakh passengers per day by 2026.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in ground-breaking ceremony at Kommaghatta on June 20.

The BSRP is a joint venture of Centre and State. As of date, Karnataka Government has released an amount of Rs. 660 crores for BSRP, while Ministry of Railways has allocated Rs. 450 crores in the financial year 2022-23 Railway Budget. An amount of Rs.120.23 crores is spent on the project.

A good mass transit network like suburban rail service brings a lot of benefits to people living in outskirts of a metro city like Bengaluru. It cuts down travelling time and that too without encountering traffic bottlenecks. It is also relatively cheaper to travel by suburban trains. Suburbam trains are a lifeline in cities like Mumbai and Chennai.

The BSRP envisages four corridors with a total route length of 148.17 kms. The four corridors are Bengaluru to Devanahalli with airport connectivity, Byappanahalli to Chikkabanavara, Kengeri to Whitefield and Heelalige to Rajanukunte.

BSRP to offer a host of benefits to Bengalureans and people living in suburbs and satellite townships.

The project is moving at a rapid pace. Planning Approval obtained for the 02 technical documents - Design Basis Report (DBR) and Schedule of Dimension (SoD) from Railway Board and RDSO. These documents are fundamental for effective implementation of safety critical projects like BSRP. Geo-technical investigation for assessing geological profile of the suburban network and estimating load bearing capacity of the founding strata has been completed. For the first time, portion of a corridor shared between local Metro organisation BMRCL (Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited) and K-RIDE at feasible locations. This has produced significant savings and avoided cumbersome land acquisition. Utility Planning and shifting: Identification of utilities to be shifted has been completed across the BSRP network Shifting of Utilities like signalling cables, extra high-tension utilities and HT/LT utilities, gas pipelines, water pipelines adjacent to railway tracks is in progress. Also, consultants have been engaged for development of stations and proposals for development of stations is at an advanced stage.

A highway to growth

The much-awaited dream project the 10-lane highway connecting Bengaluru and Mysuru will be open for public commuting soon. Once completed, the travel time between the two cities is expected to be reduced to 90 minutes from the present about three hours.

The project, which was announced in 2019, was expected to be completed by October 2022. The first 56 km stretch of the total 117 km highway from Bengaluru to Nidaghatta is expected to be ready for commuting by July.

Major works on the stretch of the highway are already completed. Each toll plaza along the route will have 11 entry points to avoid traffic congestion, and that the toll for vehicles coming to and going from Bengaluru will be at different locations. The next stretch of highway between Nidaghatta to Mysuru is expected to be completed by Dasara. It is expected, the highway would boost tourism and leads to economic growth of the region.

PM Narendra Modi to celebrate International Day of Yoga in Mysuru

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in International Day of Yoga celebrations in Mysuru.

Preparations are in full swing and elaborate arrangements are being made for Prime Minister Narendra Modi;s visit to Mysuru on June 20 and 21. He will celebrate International Day of Yoga at Palace and also participate in several other programmes.

Mysuru boasts of a rich yoga heritage. The city, known as the 'Cultural Capital of Karnataka' is also famous as 'Ashtanga Yoga Capital of India'. It prides itself of being the birthplace of Ashtanga Vinyasa yoga, which is popularly known as Mysore Yoga to those practitioners of yoga. This style was developed by yoga guru Krishna Pattabhi Jois, a disciple of T. Krishnamacharya, who was revered as one of the most influential yoga teachers of the 20th century.

It is expected that 15,000 yoga enthusiasts will participate in International Day of Yoga with PM Modi. The registrations for the mega event has already crossed 12.000. In all 17 blocks will be created for yoga enthusiasts on a 10 lakh square feet area of the Palace premises. There will be two separate blocks for VIPs. People from all walks of life would get opportunity to perform yoga in the presence of PM at the event organised by Ayush Ministry of the Union Government. Participants will get a yoga mat, mobile pouch and a shoe bag. Participants are instructed to follow strict Covid guidelines. The final rehearsal of the mega event will be held on June 19. It will be memorable event for Mysureans as the event is expected to draw national and international attention.

Continued dry spell has coffee growers in Karnataka worried

Coffee plantations should have received 5 to 6 inches of rain in June, but the State's coffee-growing areas have received hardly any so far this month

MINI TEJASWI
BENGALURU

The dry spell in coffee-growing areas of Karnataka during the early part of the monsoon has planters very worried about the future of their crop.

Going by the IMD's forecast of the early onset of monsoon, coffee growers in the State got all set for the downpour by June 1. However, the State's coffee heartlands, comprising Kodagu, Chikkamagaluru, and Hassan, are yet to see signs of active monsoon.

Secondary shade trees (dadaps) protect coffee plants, flowers, and tender berries from excessive sunlight, and (right) coffee growers in Karnataka did shade lopping a fortnight ago anticipating active monsoon. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Exposure to heat

Anticipating an active spell, most coffee growers have already carried out shade regulation through dadap lopping (chopping off the branches of secondary shade trees on their plantations), to ensure maximum sunlight on the plants during the monsoon. However, in the last fortnight, coffee plants that are currently bearing tender berries are overly exposed to heat and summer-like sunlight, say planters.

Dadap lopping is undertaken just before or at the onset of monsoon as retaining thick shade during monsoon could lead to disruption of free flow of oxygen in the garden and this may lead to berry dropping, wet foot condition, and stalk rotting in coffee plants. Dadaps (fast growing trees of the genus Erythrina) are also planted for the nitrogen-fixing bacteria on their roots.

Bose Mandanna of Subramhanya Estate at Suntikoppa, Kodagu, said, "The entire coffee belt was set for an active monsoon from June 1. But instead of a good start of monsoon, we have a dry spell which brought additional concerns to the coffee-growing community." According to him, coffee plantations should have received 5 to 6 inches of rain in June, but the coffee-growing areas have received hardly any rain so far this month.

"More than half of June has passed and the monsoon is yet to get active. Rains are very critical for the berry development and also to keep white stem borers at bay from coffee plants," said Mr. Mandanna, who is also a member of the Coffee Board.

Pepper also hit

Echoing similar sentiments, Shirish Vijayendra, former chairman, Karnataka Planters' Association, and a planter from Mudigere, said a weak monsoon would adversely affect the coffee crop this year and has also impacted pepper flowering and corn formation and also paddy cultivation in most parts of the State. "Most days are very sunny as if we are still in summer. It is not a good sign for most crops, including coffee," Mr. Vijayendra added.

Anil Kumar Bhandari, president of India Coffee Trust, and a large planter from Suntikoppa, said, a weak monsoon no doubt had added worries to the cuppa. "If the dry spell continues for another four to six days, there will be a significant impact on production due to poor crop formation," Mr. Bhandari cautioned.

Coffee growers also say they purchased manure in bulk to fertilize and nourish their plantations, a work that can be done only if the soil has enough moisture to dissolve and absorb the chemicals. "We are yet to apply fertilizer on our plantations as there is no moisture on the ground," lamented a small farmer, Sindhu Jagdish, from Ponnampet, Kodagu.

Board worried too

Confirming the scenario, K.G. Jagadeesha, CEO and secretary, Coffee Board, told *The Hindu* that the State's coffee-growing areas have been experiencing a dry spell in the last over a fortnight. "Dry spell is a serious concern for the entire coffee community and for the board as well," he added.

Meanwhile, Geetha Agnihotri, director, IMD, said an active spell of rain in coffee districts of the State is expected in the next four to five days.

Congress seeks answers from Modi on corruption

Release list of achievements of State govt.: Ramalinga Reddy

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Ahead of a two-day visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Karnataka starting on Monday, the Opposition Congress has questioned his silence on the alleged 40% corruption in the State, a scam in the recruitment of police inspectors, functioning of the "double engine" government, and its failure on doubling the farmers' income and creation of employment opportunities.

Ramalinga Reddy

Contractors' allegations

The former Home Minister and KPCC working president Ramalinga Reddy, who sought to know the stance of the Prime Minister on the alleged 40% commission in the execution of works in the State, said Mr. Modi had levelled baseless charges of "10% commission" against the previous Congress government without any complaint or evidence. Now, the Karnataka Contractors' Association had exposed alleged corruption in the government but no probe had been ordered, he said. Mr. Reddy questioned the silence of Mr. Modi on alleged corruption in the government and called him "Mouni Baba".

The Congress leader, who wanted the Prime Minister to release a list of the achievements of the State government during the last four years, demanded answers from Mr. Modi for the delay in providing necessary clearances for the execution of Mekedatu and Mahadayi irrigation projects in the State.

Mr. Reddy also questioned the silence of 25 BJP MPs on seeking State's share of GST, and said a sum of ₹19 lakh crore had been collected from the State in the form of GST but only returned only ₹4.5 lakh crore to the State. "When will MPs raise the issue of injustice meted out to the State in GST?" he asked.

The seven-time Congress MLA, Mr. Reddy said he was also keen to know the Prime Minister's stance on controversial issues such as hijab, halal, use of loudspeakers in mosques, and alleged atrocities on minorities.

Reduced Central grants

He decried the reduction in the share of the Central grants from 75% to 60% in the implementation of suburban railway project in the State. Mr. Modi would lay the foundation stone for the project on Monday.

The Opposition Congress, which has seen Mr. Modi's visit largely from the perspective of upcoming elections to the BBMP and the Legislative Assembly, criticised the Basavaraj Bommai-led government for the crumbling infrastructure of Bengaluru.

On the issue of the Agnipath scheme launched for the recruitment of soldiers, Mr. Reddy said it would "push the youth into unemployment" after four years of service.

Protests against Agnipath in Dharwad, Belagavi

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
HUBBALLI/BELAGAVI

Several young people aspiring to join the Army, who are upset with the announcement of the Agnipath scheme, resorted to protests in the districts of Belagavi and Dharwad on Saturday and demanded that the scheme be rolled back. In Dharwad, the police used canes to disperse the protesting youths and took some of them to preventive custody.

Dharwad witnessed a snap protest, with Army aspirants from different parts of the district congregating near the district court circle. They wanted to take out a protest march to the Deputy Commissioner's office, which, however, was prevented by the police as they had not taken any permission for the march.

As the youths started raising anti-BJP and anti-government slogans and insisted on taking out a protest march, Additional Deputy Commissioner Shivanand Bhajantri rushed to the spot and received the memorandum from the protesters. However, they continued their agitation and a few of them raised slogans against the police also. Meanwhile, a few protesters pelted stones, forcing the police to resort to a mild lathi-charge to disperse the crowd. A few students were also taken to preventive custody.

Police personnel deployed at Hubballi railway station after protests against the Agnipath scheme on Saturday. • PTI

Consequently, police personnel were deployed at strategic points in the city and Police Commissioner Labhu Ram visited the spot. The youth from Navalgund, Annigeri, and other areas had come to Dharwad following a call for protest circulated on WhatsApp.

Bandh call

In Belagavi district, protests were held by Army aspirants at Khanapur, Gokak, and Nippani. In Khanapur, Congress MLA Anjali Nimbalkar joined the agitation and announced a bandh in the town on Monday.

Agniveers will be inducted into State police: Araga

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

On a day protests over the Agnipath scheme spread to the State, Home Minister Araga Jnanendra said the government would induct Agniveers into Karnataka police after completion of their service under the scheme for four years, news agency Asian News International reported him as saying.

Condemning the protests against the scheme in the State, he assured the protesting youth that they would have opportunities after four years in the State police, addressing one of the main concerns of the protesters over the scheme.

Chittaranjan Phatak, Shanmukha Kamble, Manju Jadhav, and other youths alleged that through the scheme, the Union government had destroyed their Army dreams. They demanded an immediate rollback of the scheme and wanted a regular Army recruitment drive to be conducted. Ms. Nimbalkar criticised the Union government and said the BJP-led government had brought in a scheme to destroy the careers of young people. The protesting youth performed push-ups on the road to register their protest against the scheme and said they would intensify agitation in the coming days.

In Gokak, some protesters got into an altercation with the police when they were prevented at the Basaveshwara circle from going ahead. The protest concluded with the protesters going to the tahsildar's office and submitting a memorandum.

BJP tries to woo OBCs ahead of polls

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Keen to broaden its base ahead of the Assembly elections, Bharatiya Janata Party's national OBC Morcha held a study workshop in Bengaluru and its valedictory event on Saturday was attended by national president J.P. Nadda.

Participating in the session two days ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Karnataka, Mr. Nadda called upon party workers and leaders to ensure that the OBCs, who form a big chunk of the population in Karnataka, do not stay away from the party. This is seen as a strategic effort by the BJP to make inroads into the OBC category which forms the main support base of the Opposition Congress, especially with Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah being a prominent leader of the OBCs.

Convention

Mr. Nadda also participated in a convention of elected representatives from rural and urban local bodies that had been organised in Chitradurga. In the convention, he appealed to panchayat members to make use of the availability of increased allocations being made by the Centre.

He said that was "a golden period of development of panchayats as each panchayat is getting allocations worth crores of rupees." The convention was part of the BJP's preparations for the 2023 elections in rural areas.

Disruptive forces are misleading youth over scheme, says Nadda

He appeals to protesting youth to shun agitation

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Alleging that some negative and disruptive forces, which did not want reforms in the armed forces, were misleading the youth over the Agnipath scheme, BJP national president J.P. Nadda on Saturday appealed to the youth who have launched a protest against the scheme to shun the path of agitation and violence.

Addressing a meeting of elected representatives from rural and urban local bodies organised by the party in Chitradurga, Mr. Nadda said, "The youth should first study and understand the scheme and see for themselves how good and beneficial it is for them and their growth ... Our youth should trust and have faith in Prime Minister Narendra Modi that whatever he is doing is good for them and our country."

J.P. Nadda • PTI

"But there are some negative and disruptive forces in our country which do not want reforms in our armed forces," he alleged.

Maintaining that the Agnipath scheme is a game-changer for youth, Mr. Nadda said already Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai had announced that the BJP government would give preference to Agniveers in State-level jobs.

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CHAIRMAN
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Raj.Samwad/C/22/3708

JSW Steel's plea against proceedings in money-laundering case rejected

A special court had taken cognisance of offence based on Enforcement Directorate's investigation report

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has rejected the petition filed by JSW Steel Ltd., which had questioned the cognisance of offences taken by a special court against the company in an alleged money-laundering case for its transaction with illegal mining scam-tainted Obulapuram Mining Company Pvt. Ltd. (OMC), owned by the former Minister G. Janardhana Reddy.

FROM THE COURT

Justice M. Nagaprasanna said the April 11, 2022 order passed by the special court in taking cognisance of the offence against the company was "in consonance with the principles laid down by the apex court on the application of mind by the trial court while taking cognisance of offences."

"The special judge observing that he has perused all relevant materials relating to the case before cognisance was taken cannot result in failure of justice. Since cognisance is taken on a police report and not on a private complaint it is not obligatory for the judge to issue a fully reasoned order," the High Court said while refusing to accept the company's contention that the order of the special court failed to reflect application of mind while taking cognisance of offence.

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) had taken up the investigation against Mr. Reddy, OMC, and its sister companies in 2012 after the apex court ordered a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into illegal mining, transport, and export of iron ore. The ED's probe also included JSW's transaction with OMC.

A file photo of a mining area in Ballari district.

The ED had filed its investigation report, based on which the special court had taken cognisance of the offence against JSW and a few others under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The JSW had contended that it had entered into a contract with OMC in 2009 for supply of 1.5 million tonnes of iron ore, fines, and lumps to its Vijayanagar steel plant and had paid ₹130 crore to OMC for this purpose.

Supply of material

However, on and after 2010, OMC had failed to supply materials in breach of contract but on repeated insistence, some quantity of materials was supplied through OMC's sister companies, the JSW claimed.

It was also contended by JSW that it had not received any proceeds of crime from OMC as it is a creditor and not a debtor of OMC, which still has to pay crores of rupees to JSW for the short supply of materials worth ₹35.45 crore as against the ₹130 crore paid. JSW had also claimed that arbitration proceedings were also initiated against OMC for recovering ₹35.45 crore and the damages.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

OBITUARY

Dr L Shivalingaiah, BE, FIE

13th May 1930 - 18th June 2022

Former Engineer In Chief and Special Secretary PWD, Government of Karnataka.

Founder:
Ananda Social and Educational Trust
Dr B.R. Ambedkar Medical College
Dr B.R. Ambedkar Dental College
Dr B.R. Ambedkar Nursing College
Panchajanya Vidyapeeta Education Trust
Dr Ambedkar Institute of Technology

Founder President:
Ambedkar Memorial Society
Deena Seva Sanga
Ananda Cooperative Bank

It is with immense sadness and a very heavy heart that we announce the farewell of our dear father and grandfather.

Dear Grandka,

"You have taught us to never ever give up, to be strong, positive and fight with grace and courage to the very end. You are truly one in a million and we are so proud of you."

We love you very very much!

Dr Ravi Prakash, Sabena, Rupali and Shefali
Ramesh, Bhamini and Rameela

Viewing will be between 7pm, 18th June to 3pm, 19th June at our residence 94/P, 8th Cross, 11th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore 560080.

The last rites will be performed at 5:00 pm, 19th June at Kala Farm, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bangalore.

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Cases rise, but not many takers for precaution dose

Officials say that there is reluctance towards getting the third dose mainly because people have developed complacency

AFSHAN YASMEEN
BENGALURU

Less than 50% of the targeted population in the senior citizens category and 3.4% in 18-59 age group due for a precaution (third) dose of the COVID-19 vaccination have been covered so far in the State.

The Centre rolled out precaution dose administration for senior citizens across the country on January 10 and for those in the 18-59 age group on April 10.

Precaution dose coverage as of June 17

State average in senior citizens' category 48%	Highest coverage in Chamarajanagar 75%	Lowest coverage in Yadgir 26%
Coverage above State average in 16 districts	Coverage in Bengaluru Urban (inclusive of BBMP) 51%	
State average in the 18-59 age group 3.4%	Zero coverage in 13 districts	Highest coverage in Bengaluru Urban (inclusive of BBMP) 10%
Lowest coverage in Ballari and Vijayapura 0.01%	Coverage above State average in two districts (Bengaluru Urban and Mysuru)	

16 districts above average

As of June 17, the State had a target population of 37,92,939 in the senior citizens' category and 72,89,471 in 18-59 age group, due for the precaution dose.

According to data from the Co-WIN portal shared by the State Health Department, while the coverage in 16 districts is above the State average of 48% among senior citizens, only two districts (Bengaluru Urban and Mysuru) have achieved more than the State average of 3.4% in the 18-59 age group.

In the senior citizens' category, while the highest coverage is in Chamarajanagar where 75% of the target population has been covered, the lowest is in Yadgir that has 26% coverage. In Bengaluru Urban district, inclusive of BBMP, the coverage so far has been 51%. While Chamarajanagar, Kolar and Belagavi have a coverage of above 70%, Ramanagaram is inching towards 70%.

Poor response

The response has been very poor in the 18-59 age group with 13 districts recording zero coverage and an equal number recording less than 1% coverage. The lowest is in Ballari and Vijayapura that have recorded 0.01% and the highest is in Bengaluru Urban where 10% coverage has been achieved. Bengaluru Urban is followed by Mysuru that has recorded 4.1% coverage, according to data.

Arundathi Chandrashekar, State Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM), told *The Hindu* on Saturday that there is reluctance towards getting the third dose mainly because people have developed complacency. "After the third wave, COVID-19 was on a decline. Now that cases are rising again, we are hoping people will come forward to get jabbed," she said. "Moreover, many are still not eligible for the third dose as they would not have completed nine months after the second dose. We have restarted the 'Har Ghar Dastak' campaign from June 1 but the response is yet to pick up," she said.

Complacency

C.N. Manjunath, member of the State's Clinical Experts' Committee, said the complacency is mainly because of the mild nature of the third wave. "People are under the impression that the fourth wave will be milder than the third and hospitalisation and deaths will be very low and hence a booster dose is not required. But, people should know disease severity, hospitalisations and deaths were low in the third wave because of vaccination. With waning immunity, a booster dose is essential," he said.

Taking note of the poor progress, the State's COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has recommended that the precaution dose drive should be accelerated. While advising the extensive use of mass media to educate people about the need to get the booster shot, the TAC has said NGOs should be involved in mobilising eligible persons for vaccination.

Vaccination for children

The State has achieved 104% first dose and 68% second dose coverage in the 12-14 age group. Vijayapura has the highest second dose coverage at 98% while Bengaluru Urban (inclusive of BBMP) has the lowest at 47%. However, in the 15-17 age group, the State has recorded 85% first dose and 75% second dose coverage. Gadag has achieved 101% second dose coverage followed by Kodagu at 92%. Raichur and Mysuru have recorded the lowest at 61%.

750 new COVID-19 cases, zero deaths

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Karnataka on Saturday saw 750 new COVID-19 infections taking the total number of cases to 39,60,208. With this, the day's Test Positivity Rate (TPR) rose to 3.06% and the weekly TPR touched 2.84%.

Of the new cases, 716 have been reported from Bengaluru Urban alone.

With zero deaths, the State's toll rose to 40,070. Besides, 42 deaths of patients due to non-COVID-19 reasons have also been recorded.

Active cases

As many as 425 persons were discharged on Saturday taking the total recoveries to 39,15,271. Active cases rose to 4,825.

As many as 24,469 tests were conducted in the last 24 hours, including 18,146 RT-PCR tests. With this, the total number of tests rose to 6,67,33,918.

Hundreds protest demanding withdrawal of revised textbooks

STAFF REPORTER
BENGALURU

Poets, academicians, teachers, lawyers, political leaders, civil society groups, seers and hundreds of people from all walks of life held a protest rally from Krantiveera Sangolli Rayanna Railway station to Freedom Park on Saturday demanding the withdrawal of textbooks revised by the Rohit Chakrathirtha committee.

In one voice: KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar and JD(S) national president H.D. Deve Gowda during the protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Saturday; (right) participants at the protest rally. • BHAGYA PRAKASH K.

At Freedom Park, the congregation was joined by former Prime Minister and JD(S) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda and Congress leader D.K. Shivakumar who extended their full support to the protest.

The protests were led by the umbrella group Vishwa Manava Kranthikari Mahakavi Kuvempu Horata Samiti. Karnataka Rakshana Vedike was also among the organisations that participated in the protest. The protesters said that in the process of revising textbooks, the committee disrespected visionaries like Basavanna, Kuvempu and B.R. Ambedkar and "twisted facts" which is why those textbooks were "unconstitutional" and should not be prescribed for students. The meeting at Freedom Park was inaugurated by writer Baraguru Ramachandrappa, reading out the preamble of the Constitution.

'No authority to revise'

Advocate C.H. Hanumantharaya said that while the Chakrathirtha committee only had the power to examine the textbooks, they had no authority to revise them. "Today, a grave injustice has happened in the field of education. There was no Government Order sent to the committee to revise textbooks," he said

Speaking at the protest, Mr. Deve Gowda declared that he will join the protesters any day and anytime until a logical solution was worked out on the issue of textbooks. "This movement should gain pace along the lines of Gokak Chaluvali, which was led by Dr. Rajkumar. Today, all organisations should stay and fight together to solve this problem.

Mr. Shivakumar said that the Constitution is equal to religious texts like the Bhagavad Gita, the Quran, and the Bible and such are times that protests are necessary to protect it and also the culture of the place. "This movement has our party's full support and we will stay with the protesters until the government withdraws this circular (about textbooks). Although there are people from various parties, religions and castes here, we are all united by the flags of Karnataka and India," he further said.

Amongst others who spoke at the event, was Nanjavandutha Swami of Spatikapuri Mutt. Citing examples of other such instances in other states where such dilemmas were found during textbook revisions, he explained how committees took impartial decisions and said that the committee here should have done the same. "If the people we have elected make mistakes, we have all the rights to question them," he added

Along with retired judges Gopal Gowda and Nag Mohan Das, JD(S) leader C.M. Ibrahim, lyricist and music director Hamsalekha, actor and politician Mukhymanthri Chandru, Kannada activists Sa. Ra. Govind, Praveen Kumar Shetty, and others took part in the protest.

'777 Charlie' is tax-free in State

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government has given Goods and Service Tax (GST) exemption to Rakshit Shetty-starrer movie '777 Charlie' film for a six-month period from June 19.

A Government Order said that the film has been made tax-free in all cinemas in Karnataka. This is aimed at encouraging adoption of street dogs by pet lovers.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, who also holds the Finance portfolio, broke down after watching '777 Charlie' in Bengaluru. "This film brings out purity of animal's love through the role played by Rakshit Shetty and Charlie, the dog," said the Chief Minister.

Former Minister M. Raghupathy passes away

KARNATAKA BUREAU
BENGALURU

Former Minister and erstwhile Janata Parivar leader M. Raghupathy passed away in Bengaluru early on Saturday. He was 81. The last rites would performed on Sunday. His health had deteriorated in the last eight months.

Mr. Raghupathy, a student leader, went on to become an MLA as well as an MLC. He served as Education Minister in the Ramakrishna Hegde Cabinet. He also served as Minister for Information.

As Education Minister, he was credited with introducing uniforms for government school children. He had represented Malleswaram and Shivajinagar in the Legislative Assembly.

He had distanced himself from active politics as well as public life for a long time.

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Speaker Vishweshwar Hegde Kageri, and Leader of the Opposition Siddaramaiah have condoled his death.

IN BRIEF

Book launch today

BENGALURU

A book by journalist Naveen Soorinje *Nethravathiyalli Nettaru*, chronicling the communal situation in Dakshina Kannada, will be released on Sunday, by Mohammad Shaheed, who lost his father in a communal riot. The event is at Gandhi Bhavan, Kumara Kripa Road, at 10.30 a.m.

KARNATAKA POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(RAICHUR THERMAL POWER STATION)
CIN: U85110KA1970SGC001919

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Two Cover System) (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tenders are invited through e-procurement portal from agencies/ reputed firms/ organisations/contractors for the following works:

1) **KPCL/2022-23/EL/WORK_ INDENT 12424/Call-2, dt: 17.06.2022** Design, fabrication, supply and replacement of broken covers of control panel of wall blowers and Power Junction boxes of Unit 1 to 4 of RTPS.

2) **KPCL/2022-23/OW WORK_INDENT 12508 Dt: 16.06.2022** Supply, Fabrication & Replacement of GI intake louvers and SS bid screen mesh at Unit - 1 & 2 Air Washer System. **EMD: Rs. 16,638/-.**

3) **KPCL/2022-23/ELI WORK_INDENT 12515, Dt: 16.06.2022** Supply & Erection of Pumps for Air Washer System at Unit - 3 & 4 of RTPS. EMD: **Rs. 23,400/-.**

The details of Tender documents may be downloaded from GoK e-procurement website: **https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in** Last date & time for Tender Queries/Clarification: For Sl. No. 2 & 3: **25.06.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs.** Last date for receipt of tenders: For Sl. No. 1: **25.06.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 2: **30.06.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 3: **02.07.2022 upto 16.00 Hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid PART-I: For Sl. No. 2: **01.07.2022 at 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 3: **04.07.2022 at 16.00 Hrs.** and Financial Bid PART-II: For Sl. No. 2: **02.07.2022 at 16.00 Hrs.** For Sl. No. 3: **05.07.2022 at 16.00 Hrs.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer (LT)-1**, KPCL, RTPS, Shaktinagar - 584 170, Raichur Dist. Mobile: 94495 96537. E-mail: eelt1rtpskpcl@karnataka.gov.in ; eelt1rtpskpcl@gmail.com

Office of the Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru
Short-Term Tender Notification No.:07/2022-23
Date :17.06.2022

In the Tender Notice seen above, Tender is invited through Manual and e-proc from eligible contractors for works detailed below coming under Chikkamagaluru Public Works Department Division of Chikkamagaluru District. Details of capabilities to undertake or having implemented the works should be attached (As per Standard Tender Document KW 1, 2, 3 & 4). The contractors can take up the contract only if they have the minimum eligibility as per section 3. Minimum approx. amount is Rs. 5.00 lakh and Maximum approx. amount is Rs. 1000.00 lakhs.

1) Works of Sl. No. 1 and 2 are Manual and eligible contractors should apply requesting blank tender forms after paying the prescribed fees on 27.06.2022 and 28.06.2022. Blank tender forms can be obtained on 29.06.2022 and filled tender forms should be submitted up to 4.00 PM on 30.06.2022. The said Tenders will be opened, if possible, on 01.07.2022 after 4.15 PM. **2)** Tender should be submitted through e-procurement for works of Sl. No. 3 within 4.00 PM on 06.07.2022. The said Tender will be opened, if possible, on 07.07.2022 after 4.15 PM. **3)** Tender should be submitted through e-procurement for works of Sl. No. 4 to 7 within 4.00 PM on 16.08.2022. The said Tender will be opened, if possible, on 17.08.2022 after 4.15 PM. **4)** Tender should be submitted through e-procurement for works of Sl. No. 8 & 9 and 11to 21 within 4.00 PM on 25.07.2022. The said Tender will be opened, if possible, on 26.07.2022 after 4.15 PM. **5)** Tender should be submitted through e-procurement for works of Sl. No. 22 to 86 and 88 to 104 within 4.00 PM on 13.07.2022. The said Tender will be opened, if possible, on 14.07.2022 after 4.15 PM. **6)** Tender should be submitted through e-procurement for works of Sl. No. 10 within 4.00 PM on 27.07.2022. The said Tender will be opened, if possible, on 28.07.2022 **after 4.15 PM.** **7)** Tender should be submitted through e-procurement for works of Sl. No. 87 and 105 within 4.00 PM on 08.07.2022. The said Tender will be opened, if possible, on 11.07.2022 after 4.15 PM.

If these dates are declared as holidays, the next day will be considered. Further details can be obtained by contacting the case worker during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chikkamagaluru Division, Chikkamagaluru

DIPR/ckm/No.67/mca/22-23/439

IDBI BANK CIN:L65190MH2004GOI148838
IDBI Bank Ltd., NPA Management Group, E-1, First Floor, Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan Extn., New Delhi-110055, Ph: (T) 011-66083108/3008,(M) 9871760444, 9781332901

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR SALE IMMOVABLE LAND FOR SALE THROUGH E-AUCTION
Sale of Immovable property of M/s Great Indian Tamasha Company Pvt Ltd (Corporate Guarantor of M/s Great Indian Nautanki Company Pvt. Ltd)

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer (AO) of the IDBI Bank Ltd. (IDBI) invites Bids/Offers in sealed covers for sale of the following property of M/s Great Indian Tamasha Company Pvt Ltd (Corporate Guarantor of M/s Great Indian Nautanki Company Pvt. Ltd) under the provisions of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, possession whereof has been taken by the AO, IDBI Bank Ltd on **May 20, 2022.**

(1) **Name of the Borrower :** M/s Great Indian Nautanki Company Pvt. Ltd
Guarantors/Directors : Mr. Anumod Sharma, Dr. Anu Appaiah, Mr. Viraf Sarkari, Shri Sanjay Chaudhary, M/s Great Indian Tamasha Company Pvt Ltd, M/s SG Investments Pvt Ltd and M/s Wizcraft International Entertainment Pvt Ltd
Property owned by : M/s Great Indian Tamasha Company Pvt Ltd (Mortgagor)
Brief Description of Property: All that part and parcel of the property consisting of Survey No. 7/5 measuring 5 acres, Survey No. 7/3 measuring 8.80 acres, Survey No. 7/4 measuring 10 acres, Survey No. 4 measuring 1.30 acres, Survey No. 6 measuring 4.52 acres, Survey No. 7/1 measuring 67.62 acres and Survey No. 7/2 measuring 10 acres totalling measuring 107.24 acres situated at Village Percor, Madikeri Taluk, District Kodagu under Ballamvati Mandal Panchyat in the state of Karnataka surrounded from the four sides as under: On the North by: Road and Land with Survey No. 9 & 18, On the South by: Stream, On the East by: Land with Survey No. 37/11, On the West by : Government Land, together with all buildings and structures thereon and all plant and machinery attached to the earth or permanently fastened to anything attached to the earth.

(2)

Name of the Bank	Date of Notice u/s 13 (2)	Amount mentioned in Notice as on
IDBI Bank	25.11.2021	Rs.86,48,33,175.87 as on 01.11.2021
HDFC Bank	11.12.2015	Rs.6,26,68,605.24 as on 30.11.2015
Bank of Baroda	13.02.2015	Rs.49,23,12,268.08 as on 13.02.2015

The dues of IDBI Bank Ltd. outstanding as on 01.05.2022 stand at Rs. 92,69,29,017.87 /- plus interest thereon w.e.f. 02.05.2022.

(3)

Reserve Price	EMD	Date of Inspection	Last Date of Submission of Sealed Bids	Date of E-auction
Rs. 1153.00 lakhs	Rs. 115.00 lakhs	16.07.2022 (12:00PM-3:00PM)	22.07.2022 (6:00 PM)	27.07.2022 (11:00 AM to 3:00 PM)

(4) Gist of the terms & conditions appearing in Bid Document :
(1) The sale of Secured Assets is on "As is where is basis", "As is what is basis", "whatever there is basis" and "no recourse basis" for and on behalf of the Secured Creditors viz.: IDBI Bank Ltd, Bank of Baroda and HDFC Bank. **(2)** The aforesaid property shall not be sold below the reserve price mentioned above. **(3)** The sale shall take place on the expiry of thirty days from the date of publication of this notice. **(4)** The Earnest Money Deposit – (EMD) will not carry interest. AO may retain EMD of top three bidders upto 3 months from the date of opening of the bids. **(5)** The AO may permit inter-se bidding among the top three bidders. **(6)** The successful bidder will be required to deposit 25% of the sale price (less the amount of EMD deposited) at the time of confirmation of sale. The balance amount of the sale price is to be paid within 15 days of the confirmation of the sale or such extended period as may be agreed to by the AO. In case of failure to deposit the balance amount within the prescribed period, the deposited amount shall be forfeited, including earnest money. **(7)** AO reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids without assigning any reason(s). In case all the bids are rejected, the AO reserves the right to sell the assets by any of the modes as prescribed in the SARFAESI Act. **(8)** Sale is strictly subject to terms and conditions given in the Bid document. The Secured Assets mentioned in the Bid Document are based on the charges/mortgages created by the Borrower in favour of Secured Creditors, the details whereof are given in the bid document. Interested parties are requested to verify the details of the Secured Assets and inspect the records relating to mortgaged assets available with AO on request. **(9)** Secured creditors do not take responsibility for any errors/omissions/discrepancy/ shortfall etc in the secured Assets or for procuring any permissions etc or for the dues of any authority established by law. **(10)** The Secured Assets are being sold free from charges and encumbrances of Secured Creditors only. **(11)** The successful bidder would be required to bear all the necessary expenses like stamp duty, registration, expenses, tax liabilities, if any etc for transfer of secured asset. **(12)** The Bid Document can be obtained from Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sirwalia, Authorised Officer, IDBI Bank Ltd., Videocon Tower, 1st Floor, Jhandewalan Extension, New Delhi – 110055 (T)+011-66083108, (M) 9781332901 free of charge and can also be downloaded from www.idbibank.com. **(13)** Interested parties may contact undersigned on: (T) 011-66083108, (M) 9781332901 (e-mail) sanjeev.kumar@idbi.co.in and/or Shri Sushil Kumar, Assistant General Manager on (T) 011-66083008, (M) 9871760444 (e-mail) sushil@idbi.co.in. **(14)** For e-auction support, contact Mr. Chintan Bhatt (T) 079-68136878, (M) 9978591888, (email: chintan.bhatt@auctiontiger.net, support@auctiontiger.net).

STATUTORY 30 DAYS NOTICE UNDER RULE 6(2), 8(6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT
The borrower/ guarantors are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with up to date interest and ancillary expenses before auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/ sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

Place: Madikeri
Date: 19.06.2022
Sd/- Authorised Officer
IDBI Bank Ltd.

Office of District Health and Family Welfare Office, Kolar
K.N.T.B. Sanitorium Compound, Bangarpet Road, Kolar. E-Mail Id: **dhoklr@gmail.com**
No.: DHO/KOL/OS/01/2022-23 Date: 16.06.2022

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

District Health and Family Welfare Office, Kolar invites Online Bids for Outsource agencies for Hiring Man Power services of various posts as mentioned in the Tender Documents. Tender Notification No. DHO/KOL/OS/01/2022-23, Dated: 17.06.2022. Tender fees as per E-Portal, EMD **Rs. 3.60 Lakhs** and Tender Value **Rs. 240.50 Lakhs.** Last date for submission of online bids: **16.07.2022 at 17.30 hrs.** For more information please visit the **www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- District Health and Family Welfare Officer, Kolar
DIPR/Kolar/R.O. No.154/MC&A/2022-23

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

CAUVERY NEERAVARI NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
office of the Executive Engineer, Hemavathi canal Division, Tumkur - 572101 Ph.No: 0816-2201415

E PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION NO:- 06/2022-23 Dt: 16.06.2022 (TWO COVER SYSTEM) (Through e –Procurement only)

On behalf of the Managing Director, CNNL, Bengaluru, the Executive Engineer, CNNL, Hemavathi Canal Division, Tumakuru the undersigned invites tender on item rate basis from KPWD Registered Class I contractors for the works as detailed below:-

The two-cover tender procedure be followed:
1) CNNL/2022-23/CN/ WORK_ INDENT 38610 Amount Put to tender **Rs.20.96 Crores,** EMD Amount **Rs.21,00,000/-** 2) CNNL/2022-23/CN/WORK_INDENT38611 Amount Put to tender Rs.18.45 Crores, EMD Amount **Rs.18,50,000/-**
1. The contractor can have access to e–tender document from **22.06.2022 to 02.07.2022** up to 4.00 pm. **2.** Pre Bid Meeting will be on **27.06.2022** at 11.00 am, Place:- O/o Chief Engineer, Hemavathy Canal Zone, Kunigal Road Tumakuru. 3. Technical Bid will be opened on **04.07.2022** at 5.00 PM. Onwards. **4.** Financial bid of Technical qualified bidders will be opened on **07.07.2022** at 5.00 PM or any other convenient date. (After the approval of Technical Bid). For work details, qualification conditions & any other queries can be obtained in https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Hemavathi Canal Division, CNNL,Tumkur.
DIPR/TUM/214/MCA/2022-23

Suspect in Secunderabad violence arrested

Subba Rao, who runs Sai Defence academy, is accused of inciting violence

STAFF REPORTER
VIJAYAWADA

The police have reportedly taken Avula Subba Rao, who allegedly instigated the violence at the Secunderabad railway station on Friday, into custody.

Mr. Subba Rao, who established Sai Defence Academy at Narsaraopet in Andhra Pradesh, as well as in Hyderabad and other places, is accused of inciting violence at Secunderabad station over the implementation of Agnipath scheme, on Friday.

The trouble-mongers burnt some bogies and resorted to arson at the railway station. One person, Damodar Rakesh of Narsampet in Telangana, reportedly died in the firing.

Opposing the recruitment of *Agniveers* through the Agnipath scheme, protesters reportedly planned attacks on major railway stations, Central government offices and army recruitment offices in Andhra Pradesh.

The accused, Subba Rao, an ex-serviceman, allegedly sent messages and provoked the Army aspirants and instigated the youth, thereby causing violence, the investigation officers suspect.

Meanwhile, security was tightened at Guntur, Vijayawada, Tirupati, Visakhapatnam, Nellore, Srikakulam, Rajahmundry and other railway and bus stations to prevent any untoward incidents.

Security personnel; guarding the Vijayawada railway station on Saturday. • G.N. RAO

Loss to Railways

Divisional Railway Manager-Secunderabad, Abhay Kumar Gupta, on Saturday said the loss of property caused due to the Friday's arson and rioting is to the tune of ₹12 crore.

"This is apart from compensations – to be quantified and paid for food stall vendors, refunds for ticket bookings and losses due to delay in transporting goods," he said, adding that most amenities at the station for passengers were restored.

Trains were operated from the junction from 6.30 p.m. on Friday, soon after the police removed the protesters from the premises and took some of them into custody. Train operations resumed smoothly as there was no damage to the tracks and the signalling system.

Authorities on Friday had initially pegged the losses at ₹3 crore, and later at ₹7 crore.

Although the senior official said he would not comment on 'the police firing on Friday', he opined that the action was "a spontaneous reaction and the need of the hour".

"Probably, the local police who were assisting us took the decision to open fire," he said, not commenting further.

Mr. Gupta said normal traffic was restored at the station, and there was also no delay in train schedules on Saturday, except for two trains whose rakes were damaged. A detailed evaluation of the losses and additional compensations was being worked out, and a report would be submitted to the Ministry, he added.

(With inputs from Hyderabad)

Agnipath scheme sets off protests in Kerala

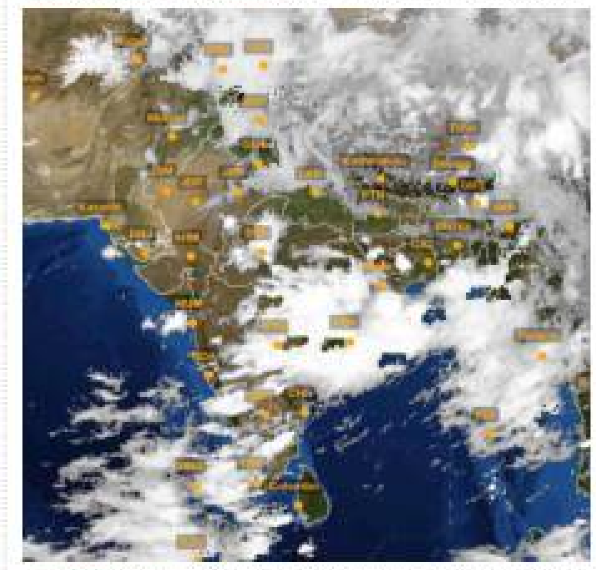
SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Ministry of Defence's new military recruitment scheme, Agnipath, has triggered street protests in Kerala. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has demanded that the Centre rollback the proposal.

In Palakkad, the All India Youth Front (AIYF) demonstrated against the scheme. In Thiruvananthapuram, soldier aspirants marched to the Raj Bhavan, demanding the Centre ditch the scheme. The protesters from various northern Kerala districts took out a march to the Kozhikode railway station on Saturday morning.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Sunday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Bihar, Telangana, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Konkan & Goa, coastal Karnataka and Kerala. Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	165	29.5	23.0	Kozhikode	6	32.0	24.8
Ahmedabad	–	39.9	28.3	Kurnool	0.3	35.5	25.2
Aizawl	53	22.6	19.2	Lucknow	–	38.2	29.0
Allahabad	–	39.7	29.0	Madurai	–	35.4	24.7
Bengaluru	43	27.2	22.0	Mangaluru	4.8	30.2	24.2
Bhopal	13.6	35.8	22.6	Mumbai	1	34.5	24.8
Bhubaneswar	2	36.4	26.8	Mysuru	–	30.0	21.3
Chandigarh	1	27.9	24.1	New Delhi	13	32.7	24.4
Chennai	–	35.8	25.9	Patna	–	38.2	29.6
Coimbatore	0.3	33.9	23.3	Port Blair	1	31.2	25.6
Dehradun	0.5	25.0	22.6	Puducherry	–	33.6	25.4
Gangtok	6	20.0	17.2	Pune	–	35.5	24.1
Goa	4	31.5	24.2	Raipur	–	36.2	25.1
Guwahati	9	30.0	24.3	Ranchi	0.4	31.4	22.7
Hubballi	–	29.0	22.0	Shillong	20	20.5	17.1
Hyderabad	0.3	36.0	26.2	Shimla	9	21.0	16.2
Imphal	18	22.4	21.0	Srinagar	0.1	19.3	15.1
Jaipur	–	37.2	25.0	Thiruvananthapuram	0.4	30.9	24.2
Kochi	4	29.8	24.2	Tiruchi	2	36.1	24.5
Kohima	–	24.5	15.6	Vijayawada	–	36.6	27.0
Kolkata	5	32.3	25.9	Visakhapatnam	–	33.2	28.0

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing — **Yesterday**

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.57	.43	.48	47	97	■
Bengaluru	.12	.21	.19	70	75	■
Chennai	.20	.11	.80	37	49	■
Delhi	2	.80	.58	115	127	■
Hyderabad	2	.16	.33	112	94	■
Kolkata	.13	.16	.20	54	86	■
Lucknow	7	.33	.71	104	138	■
Mumbai	7	7	101	19	21	■
Pune	116	.44	.82	71	57	■
Visakhapatnam	.13	.42	.15	34	62	■

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Gurugram, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 139 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 19

Air Quality Code: ■ Poor ■ Moderate ■ Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

IN BRIEF

Verdict on Dileep's bail cancellation on June 28

KOCHI

The Kerala special court trying the actor assault case wrapped up the hearing on the prosecution application for the cancellation of the bail of actor Dileep, the eighth accused in the case, on Saturday and adjourned for passing the verdict on June 28. The application was moved on the ground that Dileep tried to influence witnesses. The prosecution has demanded audio samples of accused Dileep, Anoop, Sarath, Suraj and Hyderali.

ED searches houses of TDP leaders in A.P.

ANANTAPUR

About 20 Enforcement Directorate (ED) sleuths and CISF, conducted searches and questioned Telugu Desam Party former MP J.C. Diwakar Reddy and current Tadipatri municipal chairman J.C. Prabhakar Reddy from Friday till Saturday morning. They reportedly confiscated some documents and left the houses of Mr. Prabhakar Reddy, Diwakar Reddy and a Class 1 contractor in the early hours of Saturday. The ED officials refused to talk to mediapersons, but Mr. Diwakar Reddy told the press that they took away some documents.

ED notice to Swapna over charges against CM

The accused in diplomatic gold case to appear for questioning on June 22

KERALA BUREAU
KOCHI

In a development pregnant with political implications, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued a notice to diplomatic channel gold case accused Swapna Suresh to appear for questioning at the agency's office in Kochi on June 22.

The ED's notice to Swapna was widely perceived as the precursor of an investigation into the allegations raised by her against Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan and his family.

Swapna had set off a political storm by filing a sworn statement in court relating to her public claim that Mr. Vijayan had allegedly exploited the heft of his office to import contraband gold and send tranches of foreign currency abroad via the UAE Consulate's diplomatic channel during the previous Left Democratic Front (LDF) administration.

Swapna's accusations had cast Mr. Vijayan at the centre of an evolving high-level political scandal and shoved the State into another acrimonious season of aggressive street protests.

Scores of persons were injured on both sides when the Congress and the BJP workers clashed with the police across Kerala, demanding Mr. Vijayan's resignation.

Swapna Suresh

Intense speculation swirled around whether Swapna's "disclosures" would lay the ground for a possible criminal investigation into Mr. Vijayan.

The Congress and the BJP have alleged that Swapna's "disclosures" contained significant evidence of "criminality" against the previous LDF administration, including former Minister K.T. Jaleel, MLA.

However, the CPI(M) has accused an "RSS front organisation" of goading Swapna to taint Mr. Vijayan politically. It claimed that the outfit had succoured Swapna after her release on bail from prison and deployed her as a political tool against the government.

The LDF administration has pushed back by opening a criminal enquiry against Swapna for allegedly conspiring to denigrate the government. Swapna's allegations also generated a seemingly unending cycle of riveting political drama and heated television debates.

Minister holds talks with students

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BASAR

Even as the ongoing stir by the students of the Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge Technologies at Basar in Nirmal district of Telangana entered the fifth day on Saturday, Forest Minister A. Indrakaran Reddy held talks with the agitating students on Saturday to end the deadlock. Though sources in the University claimed that the meeting ended on a positive note, the representatives of the student governing council insisted that they would call off the agitation only after receiving concrete assurances from the Chief Minister's Office.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My Clients intends to Purchase the immovable property being the Residential Property bearing **No.86**, in the Layout formed by the KSRTC Central Office Employees Urban House Building Cooperative Society Ltd., approved by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), BBMP PID No. 57-155-86, carved out of the Land in Survey No.93 Situated at Nayanappasetty Palya, Sarakki III Phase, Bangalore South Taluk, presently known as 7th Cross, 7th main, III Stage, J.P. Nagar, BANGALORE - 560078 along with Residential House constructed thereon, which is morefully mentioned and described in the Schedule herein below from its present Owner Smt. L.S. Champakamalini W/o Dr. Radha Krishna Bhogalkar, Residing at #86, 7th Cross, 7th Main, J.P.Nagar 3rd Phase, BANGALORE-560078.

Any person or persons asserting any rights, title, interest or claim in the Schedule Property or any part thereof in any manner or having any claim against the schedule property and documents thereof, against the owner or objecting to such Sale infavour of my client's should lodge the claims with the undersigned within **Fourteen (14) days** of the issuance of this Public Notice with all documentary proof on which they are basing and asserting their rights with regard to the schedule property or any part thereof, after which period my client shall proceed on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature in respect of the schedule property and proceed with the proposed Sale Transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being the Residential Property the Residential Property bearing No.86, Layout formed by the KSRTC Central Office Employees Urban House Building Cooperative Society Ltd., approved by the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA), BBMP PID No.57-155-86, carved out of the Land in Survey No.93 Situated at Nayanappasetty Palya, Sarakki III Phase, Bangalore South Taluk, presently known as 7th Cross, 7th Main, III Stage, J.P. Nagar, BANGALORE - 560078, along with Residential House constructed thereon measuring 2680 Sq. Ft., presently within the administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, including all rights, privileges and appurtances and the Site Measuring:

East to West: 11.90Meters
North to South : 16.47 Meters
Totally measuring 195.99 Square Meters Or 2109.62 Square Feet
And bounded on the: **East by:** Site No.85, **West by:** Site No.87, **North by:** Site No.77, **South by:** 30 Feet Road.

C.S. RAVISHANKAR, Advocate
M/S RAVISHANKAR ASSOCIATES
No.392, I Floor, 13th Cross,
6th Main Road, Sadashivanagar,
Bangalore- 560 080. Ph. 23610631
e-mail:ravishankarassociates01@gmail.com

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(Wholly owned government of Karnataka undertaking)

No. GESCOM/SEE (Procurement)/EE/AEE2/2022-23/14395-99 Date: 17.06.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT MODE ONLY)

PC-1192: Providing commercial vehicles to GESCOM on hired basis for the office use of officers of Corporate Office GESCOM Kalaburagi. Dates: Bid documents available at e-procurement: on or after **20.06.2022**, Last Date: **05.07.2022**. Opening of Technical/Price bid : **07.07.2022 / 08.07.2022**. Tender amount : **Rs. 86.64 Lakhs.** Bidder Qualifying Requirement: As per tender documents (IFB): For additional information Contact: Executive Engineer El.,Procurement Section, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585 102. Mobile: 9448359006. Web Site Address: www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Procurement),
GESCOM, Corporate Office, Kalaburagi

DIPR/Kalaburagi/273/MC&A/2022-23

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
Estate Officer, UAS, Raichur

No. EO/UASR/TND- 147/2022-23 Date:- 16-06-2022

E - TENDER NOTIFICATION

Item rate tender is invited on behalf of University of Agril. Sciences Raichur, as per KPWD standard document (KW-IV) under two cover system from registered contractors of K.P.W.D. / C.P.W.D. for the Civil work at A.C. Gangavathi, through e-procurement platform. The details of the notification, schedule of events, and specifications can be had by visiting the link https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in there by registering with e-procurement platform.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

a) Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders : **15-07-2022 upto 17:00 hrs**, b) Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid : **18-07-2022 at 11:00 hrs**, c) Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid : **21-07-2022 at 16:00 hrs**

For more details, please contact the office of the under signed during office hours (Ph. No. 08532 – 220640) and visit the link https://eproc.kamataka.gov.in for detailed tender notification. Also contact helpdesk number: 080 – 25501216 & 080 - 25501227

Sd/- ESTATE OFFICER,
U.A.S, RAICHUR.

DIP/Raichur/136/MC&A/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Department of Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development
Office of the Executive Engineer, MI & GWD Division, Mandya

No:EE/MID/MDY/TB/2022-23/493 Dt:16.06.2022

RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION NO : 12 / 2022-23 , Dated : 16.06.2022
Ref : This office notification Number 12/2021-22 dated 17.01.2022.

On behalf of Governer Government of Karnataka, Executive Engineer Minor irrigation and Ground water development division Mandya, Item rate Tender are invited from registered and eligible contractors under " e - Procurement " Portal as per the terms and conditions prescribed in standard tender bid documents KW-4. Any information regarding this tender may be obtained from this office up to dated : 30.06.2022 during office hours. The tenders may be uploaded (Technical and Financial bids to be uploaded separately) with the prescribed E.M.D and requisite documents through website " www.eproc.karnataka.govt.in " upto dated : **04-07-2022 up to 17-30 Hours.** Technical bids of the bidders will be opened on dated : **06-07-2022 at 11-00 AM.** Financial bids of the bidders will be opened on dated : **08-07-2022 at 11-00 AM**. All the rights are reserved for postponement or cancellation of all works or any of the work of this tender by the under signed. Terms and conditions required for the each work is published in the " e - Procurement " Tender Portal. Any additional information is available at the office of the undersigned. Any corrections regarding the works will be published in " e - Procurement " portal only.

4702-Anekat and pickup - Major work

Sl.No : 01. Name of Work : CONSTRUCTION OF CHECK DAM ACROSS SHIMSHA RIVER FOR KABBARE LIS IN MADDUR TALUK MANDYA DISTRICT. Amount put to tender (Lakhs) : 423.00. EMD Amount (In Rs) : As per e-portal. Tender Period(Including rainy season) : 09 Months. Bid category : KW-4. Type of Bid : Two cover system.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, MI & GWD Division, Mandya.

DIPR/AD-MDY/MC&A/115/2022-23

Karnataka Urban Water Supply & Drainage Board Office of the Chief Engineer
Jalamandali Compound, Sir.M. Vishveshvarayya Road,Dharwad-580 001 Email: kwbcen@gmail.com
Tel No: 0836-2447090 Fax: 0836-2446890

TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through e-Procurement Portal only)

Tender for the following work is invited (two tender document system) through e-Procurement portal (https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in) from the eligible Agency / contractors who satisfy the Technical & Financial eligibility criteria.

PROVIDING OUTSOURCE SERVICES FOR OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF BULK WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM OF KARWAR-ANKOLA TOWNS FOR A PERIOD OF TWELVE (12) MONTHS UNDER M & R TO KARWAR-ANKOLA WATER SUPPLY SCHEME FOR THE YEAR 2022-23. WORK_IDENT/3165, for Further information visit e-procurement portal.

For further details, the Office of the Chief Engineer, K.U.W.S & D. Board, Dharwad may please be contacted.

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER,
KUWS & D BOARD, DHARWAD.

DIPR/DWD/233/2022-23/DESHPANDEPUBLICITY

VISVESVARAYA JALA NIGAMA LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office of the Executive Engineer VJNL, Yettinahole Project Division, No.1 Sakaleshpur -573134
NO: EE/VJNL/YPDNo.1/ SCP-TSP /TNR-1,2 & 3/2021-22/229
Dated: 15.06.2022

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Percentage rate tenders under Yettinahole Project are invited for SCP-TSP Road work from the eligible KPWD class I contractors. The bid shall be submitted in Two Cover System containing the technical bid and financial bid. The amount put to tender of the work, indent No. and blank tender documents can be obtained and submitted through website https://eproc.karnataka.gov.in. Contractors can access the bid documents for above works from 20.06.2022 to 30.06.2022 upto 17.30 Hrs. Technical Bids will be opened in the Office of the Executive Engineer, VJNL, Yettinahole project Division No.1, Sakleshpur on 02.07.2022, 11.30 Hrs onwards. Financial bid of the qualified bidder will be opened after obtaining approval to technical bid from competent authority. The officer competent to accept the tender shall have the right to reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Sd/-Executive Engineer, VJNL, YP Division,
No.1, Sakaleshpura

/194/2022-23

Mysore Medical College and Research Institute
Irwin Road Mysuru-570001
Phone : 91-0821-2520512 (Off.), 2520803 (Fax)
Website: www.mmcri/karnataka.gov.in
E-mail: mmcrimysore@yahoo.com
No.Sup/CR/PKTB/24/2022-23 Date : 15.06.2022

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Sub: Invitation of Tender for providing of Manpower services on Out-source basis for various Group 'D' vacant posts at P.K.T.B. & C.D. Hospital, Mysuru.

The Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999 for providing of Manpower services on Out-source basis for the various Group 'D' vacant posts at P.K.T.B. & C.D. Hospital, Mysuru. The Tender documents may be downloaded from E-procurement website: https://eproc.kamataka.gov.in from 21.06.2022 and last date for submission of Tenders through E-procurement website is 21.07.2022 upto 5.00 PM. Those tenders which are not submitted with E.M.D. will be rejected.

DIPR/DD-MYS/MCA/125/2022-23 **Sd/-Director and Dean**

NATIONAL URBAN HEALTH MISSION
BENGALURU URBAN HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE SOCIETY ®
BRUHATH BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the City Programme Management Officer, Annex-3, 3rd Floor, BBMP Head Office, Bengaluru - 560002.

No: CPMO/NUHM/PR/Package-01-02-03/2022-23 Date: 16-06-2022

NOTIFICATION FOR TENDER CANCELLATION
(Through GOK e-Procurement Portal only)

The following E-Procurement Tenders which were called under National Urban Health Mission are here by Cancelled Competent Authority due to un avoidable circumstances.

1) **Supply of Group-D to UPHCs - CPMO/NUHM/PR/Package-1/2021-22 (Notification Dated: 28-07-2021)**
2) **Supply of LDC to UPHCs - CPMO/NUHM/PR/Package-2/2021-22 (Notification Dated: 28-07-2021)**
3) **Supply of DEO to Zones - CPMO/NUHM/PR/Package-3/2021-22 (Notification Dated: 28-07-2021)**

Further details can be obtained from the **Office of the City Programme Management Office, 3rd Floor, BBMP Head Office, Annex Building-3, N.R. Square, Bengaluru - 560002 or Contact Tel: 080-22110445.**

Sd/- Member Secretary,
Bengaluru City Health & Family Welfare Society, BBMP.

COVID-19. DO NOT PANIC, BE AWARE
Wear Mask | 6 Feet Follow Physical Distancing | Maintain Hand Hygiene

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
(PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT.)

No. PWD/BGM/TND/TA/AE/2022-23/1418 Date: 18.06.2022

- ITEM RATE TENDER NOTIFICATION (E-PROCUREMENT):-

The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item rate tenders from the eligible contractors registered in E-procurement portal in Public Works Department under KW-1, 2, 3 & 4 Standard tender documents for a total of 101 works (including Auction works & Grass Cutting at Suvarna Soudha, Belagavi) under 5054 -SH Improvements, 5054-SH Renewals, 5054-MDR Improvements, 5054-MDR Renewals, 5054-MDR Bridges, 8443 Deposit Contribution, 5054- SCP/TSP and 3054 SH Maintenance (Flood Damage) with maximum & minimum tender amounts of Rs.871.20 Lakhs & Rs. 11.24 Lakhs respectively and EMD with maximum & minimum amount of Rs. 13,07,000/- & Rs. 28,100/- respectively. Part-1 : Tender receipt Date is on 30.06.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Financial Bid Opening Date is on 01.07.2022 after 4.45 PM, Part-2 : Tender receipt Date is on 05.07.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 06.07.2022 after 4.45 PM, Part-3: Tender receipt Date is on 30.06.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 01.07.2022 after 4.45 PM, Part-4: Tender receipt Date is on 05.07.2022 upto 4.30 PM and Tender Technical Bid Opening Date is on 06.07.2022 after 4.45 PM for more information visit www.eproc.karnataka gov.in after 18.06.2022 and Part-4 & 5 : Auction of Rubble Stones/Hard Rock/Grass Cutting will be held at Assistant Executive Engineer, PWD, Sub Division, Soundatti , Belagavi and Suvarna Soudha Belagavi on 01.07.2022 at 11.00AM and interested Bidders should visit the site and participate in the Auction after depositing DD of Rs.5000/- in favour of Respective works of Assistant Executive Engineer, PWD, Sub Division, Soudatti / Belagavi and for Grass Cutting depositing DD of Rs.1000/- in favour of Assistant Executive Engineer, PWD, Suvarna Soudha Sub Division, Belagavi before 11.00 AM.

(Note: For all the above Civil Works, Royalty shall be deducted as per KMMCR 1994 Amendment rule 2016, Also KMMCR 2016 Amended Rule 36(3), 42(1), 44(3), 44(4)).

Sd/-Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department, Belagavi Dn Belagavi

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-357/MCA/2022-23

FROM PAGE ONE

Centre offers to sweeten Agnipath deal

Earlier in the day speaking at the TV9 global summit, Mr. Singh termed the Agnipath scheme as a "transformative reform" and noted that several government departments have announced priority in selecting Agniveers, upon completing of four years, for their recruitment processes and added that if Agniveers want to take up other work, they would also be given the facility of loans at a cheaper interest rates.

Mr. Singh also stated that Agniveers will be given the same quality training that soldiers are getting today. "Training time may be short but there will be no compromise in the quality," he added.

The Department of School Education and Literacy through its autonomous institution, the National Institute of Open Schooling, has announced that it will institute a special programme in consultation with defence authorities to enable those Agniveers who have passed Class 10 to further their education and obtain a Class 12 qualification by developing customised courses that are relevant to their area of service.

Stir spreads; railway station gutted in Bihar

The protesting aspirants set Taregna railway station, about 30 km from Patna, on fire and vandalised police posts and some vehicles parked there. Some ambulances too were damaged at Arwal in Patna district. The protesters continued vandalism in Masaurhi, Jehanabad, Fatuha, Munger and other places.

Seventeen trains originating from different stations of Eastern Railways were cancelled.

While 15 trains that were scheduled on Saturday were cancelled, two Raxaul summer specials and the Kolkata-Jhanshi Pratham Swatantrata Sangram Express scheduled on Sunday were cancelled.

While there was no violence in Kolkata on Saturday, there were protests in the city and its suburbs. Supporters of the All India Democratic Students Organisation, the student wing of SUCI (Communist), held protests at Hazra crossing in the city, only 100m from the residence of the Chief Minister.

In Punjab, a group of protesters damaged windowpanes at the Ludhiana railway station, while in Jalandhar, protesters staged a march. In Haryana, some protesters set a vehicle on fire outside Mahendergarh railway station.

(With inputs from Patna, Kolkata, Chandigarh, Hyderabad)

Two killed in Kabul gurdwara attack

"We have been closely monitoring developments since the news of the attack was received. Our first and foremost concern is for the welfare of the community," Mr. Jaishankar added.

M. Naeem, the spokesperson of the Political Office of the Taliban, said, "The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan strongly condemns the targeting of the Hindu temple in Kabul by the enemies of the Afghan people. It expresses its condolences to the families of the victims and stresses that firm and serious measures will be taken to identify and punish the perpetrators of this crime."

The gurdwara in Kabul has been home to at least 150 Sikhs, who have been staying there since the fall of the Ashraf Ghani government last August. Around 30 devotees were present in the prayer hall at the time of the attack and several managed to flee.

The gurdwara had been attacked by the Islamic State in the past. In March 2020, an attack on this temple claimed at least 25 lives and left dozens injured.

Farooq Abdullah opts out of presidential race

"I believe that Jammu and Kashmir is passing through a critical juncture and my efforts are required to help navigate these uncertain times. Therefore, I would like to respectfully withdraw my name from consideration and I look forward to supporting the joint Opposition consensus candidate," Dr. Abdullah said, in a statement. Dr. Abdullah said he had a lot more active politics ahead of him and looked forward to making a positive contribution in the service of J&K and the country. Dr. Abdullah, also a Member of Parliament from Srinagar, thanked West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for proposing his name.

400 under scanner for helping Chinese firms

"The said complaints are being processed in terms of the Chartered Accountants (Procedure of Investigations of Professional and Other Misconduct and Conduct of Cases) Rules, 2007. Hence, guilt, as alleged, as well as the number of Chartered Accountants alleged to be involved, is yet to be ascertained/determined," the ICAI said.

The MCA amended the Chartered Accountants Act 1949, the Cost and Work Accountant Act 1959, and the Companies Secretary Act 1980 in April this year to bring more accountability and time-bound disciplinary action against CAs and CSs.

A response from The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) was awaited. Since October last, about half a dozen Chinese companies engaged in telecom, fintech and manufacturing have been raided by the Income Tax authorities over allegations of tax evasion and under-invoicing.

On June 1, the MCA amended the Companies (Appointment and Qualification of Directors) Rules, 2014 that makes it mandatory to get a security clearance from the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) if any individual belonging to a country that shares a boundary with India intends to become director or shareholder in an Indian company. The official said that the decision will impact Chinese companies that operate in India through subsidiaries incorporated in other countries.

Policeman killed in Pulwama, 4th targeted killing since May

Police say the body of Farooq Ahmad was found in paddy fields near his home

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
SRINAGAR

In the fourth targeted killing since May this year, militants shot dead an off-duty policeman in Pulwama of south Kashmir on Saturday.

The police said the body of sub-inspector Farooq Ahmad Mir from Samboora, Pulwama, posted in the 23 battalion of Indian Reserve Police, was found in a paddy field near his home.

"Preliminary investigation reveals that he had left home for work in his paddy fields yesterday in the evening, where he was shot dead by terrorists using a pistol," the police said.

There are growing incidents of targeted killings of policemen in Kashmir. Three policemen were shot dead in the Valley in May.

'A wreath-laying ceremony was held at Lethpora in Pulwama for the deceased policeman on Saturday afternoon. Top police officers and the family members of the deceased laid floral wreaths.

The deceased policeman, a resident of Samboora, Pamopre, was appointed in the Jammu and Kashmir Police in 1998 as a constable and was promoted to the rank of a sub-inspector last year.

He is survived by an aged father, son and two daughters. Jammu and Kashmir Apni Party president Altaf Bukhari condemned the killing.

"I condemn this act of terror in the strongest possible terms. My heart goes out to the bereaved family," Mr. Bukhari said. Meanwhile, security forces have detected and defused an explosive object along Baramulla-Handwara highway in the Ganapora area of Langate, Kupwara.

With a heavy heart: Senior police officers carry the coffin of slain sub-inspector Farooq Ahmad Mir during a wreath-laying ceremony at Lethpora on Saturday. •NISSAR AHMAD

Flood situation grim in Northeast

Death toll rises to 62 in Assam

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GUWAHATI

The flood situation in Assam and Meghalaya continues to remain grim with no signs of a let-up in the rain.

The Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA) said that more than 31 lakh people have been affected across 32 districts in the State.

Eight people drowned or were washed away on Saturday, taking the death total to 62 since April with landslips claiming the lives of 11 of them, while 19 people have been reported missing over the past 36 hours.

The 1,206.7-mm rainfall the State has received till June 16 has affected 1,59,441.84 hectares of crops. The Northeast Frontier Railway cancelled a number of trains since June 16 as the tracks were inundated at several places.

The severity of the disaster made Prime Minister Narendra Modi call up Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma to take stock of the situation. "Earlier today, spoke to Assam CM Shri @himantabiswa and took stock of the situation due to floods in the State. Assured all possible support from the Centre, " he said in a tweet.

"We are closely monitoring the situation and providing the best help to people," Mr. Sarma said after touring Nalbari district, one of the worst-affected in western Assam.

On Friday night, three children were reported missing when a boat capsized in Hojai district of central Assam, while 21 were rescued. The incident happened when the people were moving to a safer location.

The situation in Meghalaya deteriorated with one more death reported in the South West Khasi Hills, taking the death toll to 32 since April.

PM launches a slew of projects in Gujarat

357-km dedicated freight corridor track worth over ₹16,000 crore is among the works flagged off

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday launched schemes and projects estimated at ₹21,000 crore in his home State Gujarat that goes to the Assembly polls in six months.

In his fifth visit to the State since March, Mr. Modi, in Vadodara, laid the foundation stone of projects for Indian Railways estimated at more than ₹16,000 crore, which includes a new 357-km Palanpur-Madar section of a dedicated freight corridor (DFC) track.

He laid foundation stones for the redevelopment of Surat, Udhna, Somnath and Sabarmati railway stations in the State.

He dedicated 1,38,000 houses worth ₹1,800 crore in urban areas and ₹1,530 crore in rural areas. The houses have been built as part of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna (PMAY) scheme.

Additionally, he laid the foundation stone for a new campus of the Central university near Vadodara. The campus will be developed at a cost of around ₹425 crore and will be able to accommodate over 2,500 students. Currently, the Gujarat Central University functions from a temporary campus in Gandhinagar.

Ahead of the Assembly polls, the PM launched the "Mukhyamantri Matrushakti Yojana" nutrition scheme for pregnant and nursing mothers.

With an outlay of ₹800 crore, the scheme will see monthly supply of 2 kg of chickpeas, 1 kg of yellow toor dal and 1 kg of edible oil free of cost from anganwadi centres for three years. This scheme was announced in the Budget presented in the Assembly for the year 2022-23.

"Making the lives of women easier, reducing their troubles and giving them opportunities to move ahead – these are some of the topmost priorities of our government," the Prime Minister said, addressing a convention of women in Vadodara.

He added that nutritional deficiency was a big challenge in Gujarat when he took over as Chief Minister in 2001 and since then, the State government launched many schemes to address the issue and help women in improving their nutritional values.

The Poshan Sudha Yojana, another programme that addresses the nutritional needs of pregnant women, has been expanded to all tribal-dominated areas of Gujarat in which around 1.36 lakh tribal women will benefit from it on a monthly basis.

During his speech, the PM also talked about various schemes and welfare programmes his government has launched catering to different segments of society.

Ahead of the Asembly polls, the Prime Minister has been criss-cossing the State visiting it almost once a month. He has also launched projects and attended around a dozen social events via videoconferencing since March in the State.

Bright future: Narendra Modi being felicitated at the inauguration of various development projects during the 'Gujarat Gaurav Abhiyan' in Vadodara on Saturday. •PTI

PM pens blog on mother's struggles

He visits her on her 100th birthday

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited his mother Heeraba Modi in Gandhinagar on Saturday to mark her 100th birthday, also writing a long, personal blog post about her life and struggles.

The blog post, translated and released in various Indian languages, speaks in detail about Ms. Modi's life and struggles and the struggles of the Modi family as a whole as they dealt with a scarcity of resources, with the Prime Minister's father, Damodardas Modi, selling tea at the railway station in Vadnagar, and Ms. Modi taking in washing from nearby houses to make ends meet.

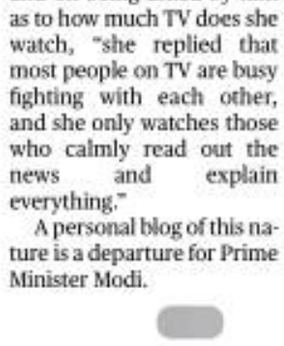
"Maa... this isn't a mere word but it captures a range of emotions. Today, 18th June is the day my Mother Heeraba enters her 100th year. On this special day, I have penned a few thoughts expressing joy and gratitude," Mr. Modi tweeted.

For the first time perhaps, he has described the reaction of his parents to his decision to leave home to travel on his own as a young man.

While his father was disheartened with his decision, and expressed it in a terse "do as you wish", it was Mr. Modi's mother who persuaded his father to let him go with their blessings. She asked Damodardas Modi to consult an astrologer, who then told the family that Prime Minister Modi's "path" was different and to let him go with their blessings. After he left home, Mr. Modi said, his mother switched from referring to him as *"tu"* in Gujarat (a reference to someone younger than oneself) to *"tame"* (a reference to someone senior).

Hidden in the blog, there seems to be a pointer to the state of TV debates. The Prime Minister writes that his mother likes to keep up to date with news and contemporary developments, and on being asked by him as to how much TV does she watch, "she replied that most people on TV are busy fighting with each other, and she only watches those who calmly read out the news and explain everything."

A personal blog of this nature is a departure for Prime Minister Modi.



PM with his mother Heeraba Modi in Gandhinagar. •SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India's cultural, spiritual glory being restored, says Modi

He opens Mahakali temple on the Pavagadh hills

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
AHMEDABAD

Asserting that India is now witnessing "cultural independence that started with Sardar Patel renovating Somnath temple" after Independence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday unfurled a flag after inaugurating the revamped Mahakali temple, which was destroyed by the 15th century Gujarat ruler Mahmud Begda.

"For five centuries and 75 years of Independence, there was no *dhwaja* atop Mahakali temple. Today, the flag once again unfurls on the temple. This flag is not only a symbol of our faith and spirituality but it shows that centuries change, eras go by, but our faith remains eternal and strong," Mr. Modi said addressing a small gathering on the Pavagadh hill in central Gujarat.

The 11th century temple has been redeveloped with a new spire and flag atop after a *dargah*, or shrine, which stood atop the temple for nearly 500 years, was shifted with the consent of its caretakers.

The temple is being run by a trust headed by Gujarat BJP treasurer and senior leader Surendra Patel. The temple trust on Saturday issued an advertisement in local media which says, "After being destroyed by Mohmad Begda 500 years ago the temple atop and *Dhwaja* will be restored today."

As per the details, the temple is said to have been destroyed by 15th century Gujarat ruler Sultan Mahmud Begda (1458 to 1511), who had set up his capital in Champaner near Pavagadh after defeating the Rajput rulers. Begda was the most prominent ruler of the Gujarat Sultanate and had earned the title Begda, after conquering the forts of Junagadh and Pavagadh.

It is said that during Begda's reign, a shrine or Sadanshah Pir Dargah was built after the spire of the temple was destroyed. Now, the shrine has been shifted "amicably" paving the way for redevelopment of the temple with a spire and flag atop.

In his address, Mr. Modi, without mentioning about the temple's controversial history, said that the country is witnessing restoration of India's cultural and spiritual glory as a grand temple of Lord Rama is being built in Ayodhya while Kashi Vishwanath temple has already been built. He referred to the redevelopment of Kedarnath in Uttarakhand.

"Our centres of faith and spiritual glory of India are being re-established. The rebuilding of Mahakali temple at Pavagadh is part of the same *'gaurav yatra'*," the PM said in his address.

In fact, neither the State government nor the temple trust have made any statement about shifting of the shrine to pave the way for restoration of the ancient temple on the hills.

The PM said that in the glorious tradition of Somnath, Pavagadh temple has been redeveloped. He meant that like Somnath, which is said to have been plundered and demolished by Mahmud of Ghazni and restored after Independence by Sardar Patel, Pavagadh temple has been restored.

Restored temple: Narendra Modi prays at the redeveloped Shree Kalika Mata Temple in Pavagadh on Saturday. •PTI

IN BRIEF

NCPCR sees probe into use of children in riots

NEW DELHI
The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights on Saturday urged the governments of the States that witnessed "communal protests" over remarks made by two now-sacked BJP functionaries against Prophet Muhammed to recommend an NIA probe into the use of children in the violence. The use of children in last week's violence may have been coordinated by dubious organisations, NCPCR Chairperson Priyank Kanoongo (in photo) said in a post on Twitter. PTI

Aadhaar number to be linked to voters list

NEW DELHI
The government has amended the Registration of Electors Rules to allow linking Aadhaar details with voters list to weed out duplicate entries and making election law gender neutral for service voters. The Legislative Department in the Union Law Ministry issued notifications on Friday night announcing that the rules have been amended in line with the provisions of the Election Laws (Amendment) Act, 2021 passed by Parliament in December last year. The Registration of Electors (Amendment) Rules, 2022 will come into force on August 1. PTI

'BJP using Central agencies to scare MLAs'

MUMBAI
Congress MLAs were being called by Central investigation agencies directly and asked to support the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in the Maharashtra Legislative Council polls slated for June 20, State Congress president Nana Patole alleged on Saturday. The Nationalist Congress Party (NCP), meanwhile, said that "the entire State of Maharashtra will witness a miracle" on polling day. The Congress leader said that the scenario of the Rajya Sabha elections would not be repeated.

'Unanimous support on need to stand with Lanka'

NEW DELHI
External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar chaired a consultative committee meeting on the situation in Sri Lanka on Saturday and said there was "unanimous support" on the need to stand with the neighbouring country in this difficult time. During the meeting, it was also conveyed that India gives financial credit to other nations on terms that do not put these countries in trouble in the future. Sources said that the refugee issue was also discussed. The committee was informed that only a few refugees have arrived in the country. PTI

INTERVIEW | OM BIRLA

'It's the government that decides to send Bills to Standing Committees'

Bills should be circulated well in advance of debate in the House, so that members have adequate time to prepare for it, says the Lok Sabha Speaker

NISTULA HEBBAR
SANDEEP PHUKAN

Lok Sabha Speaker **Om Birla**, *who has completed three years in office, speaks on the new normal of functioning of Parliament in the shadow of a pandemic, parliamentary scrutiny and the recent controversy over the remarks against Prophet Muhammed by a now-sacked BJP spokesperson. Edited excerpts.*

We are trying to emerge from two years of the pandemic, through which Parliament functioned. How was Parliament affected by the pandemic?

■ During the pandemic, the duration of sittings was reduced but if you look at the figures, the Lok Sabha clocked 167% productivity, this is a record high.

Our allotted time during the truncated sessions was between 4 p.m. and 9 p.m. and members made full use of the time. If you look at attendance of members also, it was higher than in non-pandemic periods; around 337 MPs on an average were present in Parliament. So, the working of Parliament was not affected much. In terms of what issues members raised, more speakers raised Zero Hour mentions and we started, in this 17th Lok Sabha, the practice of trying to get a response to matters mentioned then. In the demands for grants debate, four hours were allotted but the House debated it for 15 hours. In terms of democratic dialogue, it has been a rich experience.

There are frequent complaints by Opposition that not enough Bills are being sent to parliamentary committees. Also, that Ministries circulate Bills just before the debate is taken up on them, not giving enough time to prepare.

■ Government, in the eighth session of the 17th Lok Sabha, sent nearly 60% of the Bills to the Standing Committees. Governments bring Bills for the welfare of citizens and [with regard to] some Bills, government may feel that to delay may lead to a loss to the people. So they may want to debate in the House, maybe more than the allotted time but not be so much in favour of sending the Bill to the Standing Committee. It's the government that makes the decision whether Bills are sent to the committee or not, and takes the mandate of the House.

As for circulation of Bills minutes before being debated, I have raised the issue with the Parliamentary Affairs Ministry, and said that Bills should be circulated well in advance of debate, so that members have an adequate time period to prepare for debate.

You have been proactive in encouraging those who have never spoken in the House to speak.

There is no rule, no procedure for asking people outside the boundaries of this country to be summoned at the will of the Speaker

■ My aim is that the largest number of new and women members speak in the House. There was for example a first-time woman member, who, because she didn't know either English or Hindi, only her local language, felt inhibited in raising issues in the House. I called the translator for her language and helped her formulate a speech, now she often speaks in the House.

In fact, that is why I ask that the House run beyond its time, late into the night. In the first session that I chaired as Speaker, a record-breaking 1,066 members raised Zero Hour mentions, and we also have, for the 17th Lok Sabha, the all-time record of 182 people raising issues during Zero Hour.

Facebook whistle-blower Sophie Zhang has been saying repeatedly that she wants to depose before the Standing Committee on Information Technology, but that you are not allowing that to happen.

■ As Speaker of the Lok Sabha, in case a particular parliamentary committee wants to summon witnesses to depose before them, and if these people are employed with State governments or under their jurisdictions, then the Speaker can, at the request of the committee, ask that they present themselves. There is no rule, no procedure for asking people outside the boundaries of this country to be summoned at the will of the Speaker.

I am being tagged every day on Twitter for this, but I must clarify that as Speaker there are no rules under which I can summon people from abroad. Country representatives of various companies have represented them before the committee.

Certain remarks about Prophet Muhammed triggered quite a controversy internationally. A member of the Parliament of the Maldives had moved a resolution against India, but it was eventually defeated. Several other West Asian countries condemned those remarks, while a report in the U.S. questioned religious freedom in India. As the custodian of the people's House of the world's largest democracy, how do you view these developments?

■ This issue doesn't strictly concern the functioning of Parliament. Rather, it's about relations between nations. Everyone has the right to speak about issues in their own country.

But it is our expectation that the parliamentary proceedings of any country should not get reduced to making allegations and counter-allegations about another country.

You can surely discuss events, but Parliament should not be used pass resolutions concerning another country. Say when we discussed the Ukraine war, we restricted ourselves to the impact on India.

Similarly, when we pass a Bill here [Lok Sabha)], another Parliament shouldn't be commenting on it until it directly impacts them.

A delegation of the Congress met you to complain about the Delhi Police misbehaving with their MPs during a protest against the Enforcement Directorate. Lok Sabha member S. Jothimani also written to you about breach of her privilege. Would you act on their complaint?

■ Yes, a delegation had met and apprised me of the developments that took place in the past few days.

Subsequently, a representation was made in writing as well.

There are well-defined rules to deal with, and dispose of, such issues. This complaint too would be examined within those rules and action will be taken.

You had said that the winter session of this year will be held in the new Parliament building. So, are we on track?

■ The way construction work is progressing, right now we are six days behind schedule.

But the pace of construction is quite good and we hope to hold the winter session in the new building.

U.P. police arrest 340 people

OMAR RASHID
LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh police on Saturday said they had arrested 340 persons in connection with the protests that broke out in several parts of the State against the Agnipath scheme.

The police lodged 29 cases in 12 districts. Out of the 340 persons arrested, 145 were charged under preventive measures (Section 151 of the Cr.PC), while 195 were arrested under registered FIRs, they said.

Meanwhile, protests continued in some districts, especially in Jaunpur where several vehicles were damaged.

In Mathura, the police arrested 43 persons, 35 in Aligarh, 36 in Varanasi, 41 in Jaunpur, 20 in Mirzapur and 15 in Gautam Buddha Nagar.

BJP, JD(U) spar over Bihar stir

Saffron party accuses govt. of 'targeted vandalism'; Nitish's party denies charge

AMARNATH TEWARY
PATNA

As the anti-Agnipath stir continued for the fourth consecutive day in Bihar, the BJP, part of the ruling alliance, on Saturday accused the State administration of targeted vandalism, and said "if it [violence] continues, it will not be good for anyone". The Janata Dal(U) reacted, saying Chief Minister Nitish Kumar knew how to run the administration.

"Nothing wrong with protest as everyone has got the right to oppose. We are from different political parties and everyone has got the right to protest, but targeting people at the behest of administration, torching offices of a particular party with the police acting as mute spectators is wrong. What isn't happening in India, is happening in Bihar and if it continues, it will not be good for anyone," BJP State chief Sanjay Jaiswal said.

Security personnel patrolling the streets of Patna during the Bihar bandh on Saturday. •PTI

Mr. Jaiswal's residence and business establishment in his home town Bettiah in West Champaran district was attacked and vandalised by protesters on June 17. Senior State BJP leader and Deputy Chief Minister Renu Devi, who too hails from the district, had to put off her visit due to the protest on the same day while earlier the vehicles of BJP MLAs Aruna Devi and Vinay Bihari were damaged by protesters. "What action has been taken against policemen who have been mute spectators during protest," Mr. Jaiswal asked.

However, the JD(U) reacted, saying "lessons from BJP is not needed". "Instead of clearing doubts of protesters on Agnipath scheme, the BJP is accusing the State administration. Chief Minister Nitish Kumar knows well how to run an administration and he is known in the country for his good governance." "What is happening in other BJP-ruled States such as Madhya Pradesh and Haryana," he asked. "Why is Mr. Jaiswal not asking governments there to fire upon protesting students and get thousands of them killed," asked JD(U) national president Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh.

Meanwhile, the police said that over 325 people, who indulged in violent protests were arrested and about 60 FIRs have been lodged.

The Union Home Ministry has accorded VIP security cover to 10 Bihar BJP Legislators in view of threats posed to them by those protesting, officials said.

(With PTI inputs)

Govt. has ignored voice of protesters, says Sonia Gandhi

She terms scheme directionless, calls for peaceful protest

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

Appealing for non-violent protests, Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Saturday said that the Agnipath recruitment scheme is directionless, and assured the protesting youth of support from the party.

"I am sad that the government has announced the scheme of new army recruitment ignoring your voice, which is completely directionless. Along with you, many ex-servicemen and defence experts have also raised questions on this plan," Ms. Gandhi said in a statement that was released by the Congress communication chief Jairam Ramesh.

Sonia Gandhi

Ms. Gandhi, who is undergoing treatment for post COVID issues in a Delhi hospital, added, "The Congress stands firmly with the youth and promises to protect their interests by fighting to get this scheme withdrawn. Like a true patriot, we will raise your voice by following the path of truth, non-violence and peace."

Earlier in the day, former party chief Rahul Gandhi said that as the now-repealed farm laws, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will have to become *maafiveer* and withdraw the new recruitment scheme.

'Will have to withdraw'

Accusing the Modi government of continuously insulting the *Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan* [Hail the soilder, hail the farmer] slogan, Mr. Gandhi, in a tweet, said, "I had said earlier also that the Prime Minister will have to withdraw the black farm laws. In the same manner, he will have to accept the demand of the youth of the country by becoming *maafiveer* and taking back the Agnipath scheme".

Rajasthan govt. calls for withdrawal of Agnipath scheme

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
JAIPUR

The Rajasthan Council of Ministers on Saturday passed a unanimous resolution calling for immediate withdrawal of the Agnipath scheme keeping in mind the larger public interest and the sentiment of the youth.

The Ministry also expressed concern over the nationwide protests and violence over the scheme.

At the meeting presided over by Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot at his official residence here, the Council of Ministers said the Centre should have had a comprehensive discussion with all the stakeholders before introducing any such scheme.

The Ministers also appealed to the youth to raise their voice in a peaceful, non-violent, democratic manner and maintain restraint.

Official sources said here that the Ministers felt that the scheme would neither secure the future of the youth, nor would it enable the Army to face the challenges with full confidence.

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS:TIRUPATI
NOTICE INVITING TENDER-CUM-REVERSE TENDERING
Adv.No.TTD-44021(34)/10/2021-Press SEC TTD Dt: 17-06-2022
e-Tenders are invited for **Printing and Supply of 6 Sheet Calendars-2023 (50,000 Nos) (2nd Call)** as per tender notice & details of e-tender. Please log on to the web site http://www.apeprocurement.gov.in (or) http://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.
For further details, if any, please contact: 0877-2264355 (or) 0877-2264292.
Roc.No.PR4/13943/Adv.No.89/PRO/2022, Dated:18-06-2022 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY. e-Tender Notice
Tender No : SE/PHC/KKD/03/2022-23. JJM 2021-22: WSS to Chathamangalam and adjoining 7 Panchayaths -.Construction of 14m dia intake well cum pump house, Supplying, Laying, Testing and Commissioning of Raw water pumping main, Gravity main from WTP to existing 18MLD sump, wastewater pipeline from WTP and allied structures. EMD: Rs. 500000. Tender fee: Rs. 15000 + 18% GST. Last Date for submitting Tender : 11-07-2022, 05:00pm.
Phone : 0495-2371046
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in
www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
KWA-JB-GL-6-380-2022-23
Superintending Engineer
PH Circle
Kozhikode

APPOINTMENT

Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment
(KSCSTE), Sasthrabhavan, Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram - 695004
Phone: 0471-2548316, website: www.kscste.kerala.gov.in
Expression of Interest Invited
The Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE) invites Expression of Interest for the empanelment of Intellectual Property Firms for KSCSTE. For more details, visit **www.kscste.kerala.gov.in** Last date for submission of Expression of Interest in the prescribed format is 15.07.2022.
RO/01507/D3/2022/I&PRD **MEMBER SECRETARY**

INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICS AND APPLICATIONS
Science & Technology Department, Govt. of Odisha
Andharua, Bhubaneswar-751029
Ref : No. IMA / 42-Admission / 538 / 2022, date : 18.06.2022
ADMISSION NOTICE FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23
EXTENSION OF LAST DATE OF APPLICATIONS : REGARDING
In continuation to the earlier notice vide notice number IMA/42-Admission/283/2022, dtd. 8/4/2022 and IMA/42-Admission/387/2022, dtd.10/05/2022, it is to notify that the last date of receipt of filled in application forms for admission into PG and UG courses of IMA is further extended upto **Monday, July 4, 2022.**
The date of entrance test will be notified later.
For procedure of application, application fees, Centers of Entrance Test and the revised admission & course fee structure etc. please visit **https://www.iomaorissa.ac.in/admissions**
Sd/-
DIRECTOR
CAD-846
OIPR-28010/11/0006/2223

TAMIL NADU OPEN UNIVERSITY
No. 577, Anna Salai, Saidapet, Chennai – 600 015.
APPOINTMENT OF VICE – CHANCELLOR
SEARCH COMMITTEE NOTIFICATION
The Government of Tamil Nadu vide G.O. (D) No. 116, Higher Education (K1) Department dated 04th May 2022 have constituted a Search Committee to recommend a panel of three persons to the Hon'ble Governor-Chancellor for selection of Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai.
The Search Committee invites applications for the post of Vice-Chancellor, Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai from distinguished academicians with high level of competence, integrity, morals, and institutional commitment and possessing the educational qualification and work experience as notified by the Government of Tamil Nadu in their G.O Ms.No.187, Higher Education (K2) Department dated 14th July 2017 copy of which is available in the Tamil Open University website **www.tnou.ac.in**
The Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period of three years (provided that the person appointed as Vice-Chancellor shall retire from the office if, during the term of office, he / she attains the age of 70 Years)
Interested candidates possessing the qualifications and experience may download the prescribed application, from the website of Tamil Nadu Open University. The filled in application or nomination shall be sent (only in the prescribed format) by e-mail and Registered post or in person duly superscribing the Envelop "Application for the post of Vice-chancellor, Tamil Nadu Open University" so as to reach the following address on or before 5.00 P.M. of 20th July 2022.
Dr. S. Swamynathan
Nodal Officer
Search Committee for the selection of Vice-Chancellor, TNOU
Professor, Department of Information Science and Technology, College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University, Chennai - 600 025. E-mail: tnouvcsc2022@gmail.com
Applications received by the Nodal Officer after the publication of this notification in the website / newspapers alone will be considered. Applications received after 5.00 P.M. of 20th July 2022 will not be entertained on any account. Applications should not be sent to the Search Committee members directly.
DIPR/588/Display/2022 **Convener – Search Committee**

ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER P.W.D. ZONE-II, JAIPUR
PWD Campus, Jacob Road, Jaipur
Phone:- 0141-2226537 Ex.:299
e-mail: acezoneii@yahoo.com / acejaipur2.pwd-rj
File No. 527 Date 10/06/2022
NIB No.-05/2022-23
Bids for 2 No. CM Budget Announcement works for year 2022-23 are invited from interested bidders upto 6-00 PM on 06-07-2022. Other particulars of the bid may be visited on the procurement portal (http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.raj.nic.in) of the state; and http://pwd.rajashtan.gov.in. The approximate value of the procurement is Rs. 2849.13 lacs.
UBN No. PWD2223WLOB02617 (Manwar Ali)
UBN No. PWD2223WLOB02618 Addl. Chief Engineer
DIPR/C/8260/2022 PWD Zone-II, Jaipur

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR EMPOWERMENT OF PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES (Divyangjan)
(Accredited by NAAC) (ISO 9001:2015 Certified – HRD & Clinical Services)
(Dept.of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt.of India)
Muttukadu, East Coast Road, Kovalam (P.O), Chennai - 603 112 Tamil Nadu - India.
Phone: 044 - 27472046, 27472113, Toll Free No: 18004250345, Mobile No: 9444314716
Kiran Mental Health Rehabilitation Helpline: 18005990019
www.niepmd.tn.nic.in E-mail: niepmd@gmail.com, niepmdhrd@gmail.com
ADMISSION NOTICE
NIEPMD(D) invites applications for admission to the following courses for the academic year 2022-23.

Course & Duration	Last Date of Submission of Application
Certificate Course in Care Giving (Basic-A) (3 Months)	31.07.2022
Certificate Course in Care Giving (Advance) (6 Months)	
Certificate Course in Care Giving (10 Months) ##	
D.Ed. Special Education in Multiple Disabilities (2 Years)	Admission through RCI, New Delhi refer www.rehabcouncil.nic.in
Bachelors of Physiotherapy (BPT) (4 ½ years) Bachelors of Occupational therapy (BOT) (4 ½ years)	Admission through CET 2022, please visit http://www.niohkol.nic.in or State Selection Committee, DME, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
Bachelors in Prosthetics and orthotics (BPO) (4 ½ Years)	Admission through CET - 2022, please visit http://www.niohkol.nic.in
Bachelors in Audiology and Speech Language Pathology (B.ASLP) (4 Years)	18.07.2022
B.Ed. Special Education in Multiple Disabilities (2 Years)	29.07.2022
M.Ed. Special Education in Multiple Disabilities (2 Years)	
Post Graduate Diploma in Early Intervention PGDEI (1 Year)	15.07.2022
M.Phil - Clinical Psychology (2 Years)	16.08.2022

Awaiting Extension of approval from RCI
• For details on application process: eligibility, norms, guidelines and curriculum refer to the prospectus in www.niepmd.tn.nic.in
• SC/ST/PwD Scholarships as per TN Govt./State Govt./National Scholarship Portal schemes are applicable.
Director, NIEPMD

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
(CONSTRUCTION ORGANISATION)
Tender Notice No.
OHE/CN/DyCEE/22-23/02/177
Date:17.06.2022
For and on behalf of The President of India, The Dy.Chief Electrical Engineer/OHE, Construction, Southern Railway, Chennai Egmore invites E-Tender for the following works.
"Provision of 25kV/240V, 25kVA Auxiliary transformers at Salem yard along with associated work and provision of Galvanized Traction bonds in the section between Salem and Omalur in connection with the doubling of tracks between Salem and Mettur dam in Salem division of Southern Railway"
Tender Value: Rs. 42,53,982.50/-
Tender closing date and time: 11.07.2022 at 11.00 hrs
For more details visit www.ireps.gov.in
Dy.Chief Electrical Engineer/ OHE Electrical Construction/ Chennai
Follow us on: twitter.com/GMSRailway

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER & BASIN MANAGER,
SUBARNAREKHA & BUDHABALANGA BASIN, AT/PO:- LAXMIPOSI, DIST:-MAYURBHANJ
Government of Odisha "e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Bid Identification No.- 02 /22-23 of CEBM, SBB, Laxmiposi

i.	Name of Work	Construction of Nuagaon Distributary from RD 4792 M to 9140M, Kainphulia Minor, Pathara S/M, Joginuagaon S/M and Amjuda S/M including all structures, Cement Concrete lining and inspection road under Subarnarekha Irrigation Project.
ii.	Estimated Cost	Rs.4061.36 Lakh
iii.	Period of Completion	18 (Eighteen) Calendar Months
iv.	Date & Time of availability of bid document in the portal	20.06.2022 at 10.00 AM
v.	Last date / time for receipt of bid in the portal	19.07.2022 up to 5.00 PM
vi.	Name & Address of the O.I.T.	Chief Engineer & Basin Manager, O/o the CE&BM, Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement Portal "https://tendersodisha.gov.in".
Chief Engineer & Basin Manager,
Subarnarekha & Budhabalanga Basin, Laxmiposi, Mayurbhanj. cebmsbb2019@gmail.com
A-331
OIPR-32429/11/0005/2223

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS:TIRUPATI
S.V.Gosamrakshana Shala NIT No.TTD-30021(43)/2/SVGS/TPT/2022, Dt:17-06-2022
e-TENDER CUM-REVERSE TENDERING NOTICE
S.V.Gosamrakshana Shala, TTD, Tirupati is inviting "e-tender-cum-reverse tendering" (3rd Call) for procurement of Toned Milk for a period of one year. The details of the Tender documents can be downloaded by log in to https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in and select on current tenders and click on more and then select "Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Marketing at Department field" and "Marketing Office" in the Circle / Division field and click on search button. NIT No: TTD/30021(43)/2/SVGS/TPT/2022.
TENDER DOCUMENT DOWNLOAD: ●Start Date: 21-06-2022 from 05.00 p.m. ●End Date: 27-06-2022 up to 05.01 p.m.
DATE OF OPENING OF TENDER : ●Technical Bid: 28-06-2022 at 11.00 a.m. ●Financial Bid : 29-06-2022 at 11.00 a.m. ●Reverse Auctioning / Reverse Tendering Date & Time: 29-06-2022 from 02.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.
For further details contact Phone No.0877-2264570 / 98490 50646.
Roc.No.PR4/13943/Adv.No.90/PRO/2022, Dated:18-06-2022 **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

India reports 13,216 fresh COVID cases

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

India's COVID-19 tally increased to 4,32,83,793 on Saturday as 13,216 more people tested positive for the virus and the active caseload climbed to 68,108, according to Union Health Ministry data.

This is the first time in 113 days that India has recorded over 13,000 cases. The death toll increased to 5,24,840 with 23 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 a.m. said.

The active cases comprise 0.16% of the total infections. The national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.63%, the Ministry said.

An increase of 5,045 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours. The daily positivity rate was recorded at 2.73% and the weekly positivity rate at 2.47%, the ministry said. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,26,90,845. The case fatality rate stood at 1.21%, it said. The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country under the nationwide inoculation drive have exceeded 196 crore.

COVID worsened matters in Sundarbans: UN report

Study says double burden of disease and cyclone disrupted education and reinforced vulnerabilities faced by children and women

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

A study on the impact of COVID-19 funded by the UNDRR (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction) across five locations, including the Indian Sundarbans, has pointed out that the pandemic and measures to contain it had not only triggered cascading effects throughout societies but also reinforced pre-existing vulnerabilities.

The report titled "Understanding and managing cascading and systemic risks: lessons from COVID-19" published recently presents cross-cutting findings from five case studies across the world.

Along with looking into a multi-hazard perspective in the Indian Sundarbans, the study looks at the fragile setting in Bangladesh's Cox's Bazaar; challenges on all fronts at the national scale in Indonesia; densely populated, urban setting in Guayaquil, Ecuador; and rural-urban and national-international interlinkages in the maritime region Togo.

In the Sundarbans, the people had to deal with the double burden of COVID-19 and Cyclone Amphan. The first months of the outbreak of COVID-19 from March to May coincided with one of the severest tropical cyclones that made landfall on May 20, 2020, with sustained wind speeds of 170 kmph, gusts of up to 190 kmph and storm surges of up to five metres.

It caused $13 billion of damage, thereby becoming the costliest cyclone ever recorded in the north Indian Ocean (State IAG, 2020).

"The impact of two hazards occurring simultaneously manifested in the economic distress across sectors, actors and scales as reported in the workshops, media and publications. A significant proportion of the population in this area is dependent on natural resources for livelihood (fishers, crab collectors, honey gatherers, beekeepers, agriculturalists). Due to COVID-19 containment measures, restrictions were placed on accessing these natural resources, which themselves were directly affected by the cyclone," the study points out.

The research pointed out that closing schools as a preventive measure for COVID-19 resulted in the disruption in education.

"While the existing poverty was one barrier for families to pay for tools to access online education, unstable Internet connectivity in the remote regions was another barrier. When these barriers were coupled with the additional economic distress due to the pandemic and the cyclone, the disruption in education became conspicuous (Save the Children, 2020)," the study pointed out.

Adverse impact: The research pointed out that the main cascading impact in this region in the near and long term is due to economic distress caused by the lockdown. • SHIV SAHAY SINGH

Forced marriage

Incidence of forced marriage of underage girls increased during the lockdown and in the aftermath of the cyclone, and with economic distress and disruption in education, many families engaged their children, especially young boys, as child labour, the publication added.

The impact of the pandemic was not only on children but also severely on women. Many women had to additionally work in fields on top of their other existing workloads; to do work that was otherwise done by hired workers.

"Similar cascading impact on women's hygiene and safety was reported by residents as restricted access to sanitation services, resulting from infrastructure damage and inundation, compelled some women to resort to open defecation, which was further compounded by movement restrictions imposed due to COVID-19," the study pointed out.

Researchers have pointed out that the twin blows of the COVID-19 pandemic and Amphan resulted in short-term loss of income which aggravated child marriage and human trafficking, which can have long-term impacts.

Cyclones common

Sumana Banerjee, School of Oceanographic Studies, Jadavpur University, who has contributed to the research pointed out that cyclones are common in the Indian Sundarbans but the co-occurrence of Cyclone Amphan within the pandemic restrictions reshaped the understanding of risk.

"Despite not being severely affected by COVID-19 between March and May 2020, the Indian Sundarbans faced a wide range of impacts across sectors due to its interconnectedness and its existing vulnerabilities, which when combined with the impacts of the cyclone led to compounding of impacts and cascading of those across sectors." Ms. Banerjee added.

Economic distress

The research pointed out that the main cascading impact in this region in the near and long term is due to economic distress caused by the lockdown. "The COVID-19-induced lockdown disproportionately affected poorer households of this region. One study revealed that 88% of poorer households' average weekly local income and 63% of average weekly remittance income were lost due to COVID-19 (Gupta and others, 2020). Not only did it increase poverty, it pushed certain people back into it. The reduction in income due to employment loss forced people to reduce meal portions and consume fewer food items, thereby affecting their food security (Gupta and others, 2020)," the report says.

Michael Hagenlocher, lead author of the report and senior scientist at UNU-EHS (United Nations University - Environment and Human Security), says the report reminds us of the importance of better understanding the interconnections in societies and the vulnerabilities within them. "Before the pandemic, there was not much awareness that hazards, such as floods, droughts or regional disease outbreaks can have knock-on effects on societies globally. Only when COVID-19 started to spread and affect our daily lives, the true extent of how interdependencies in our highly interconnected world are causing impacts to cascade within and across societies became fully visible," Mr. Hagenlocher added.

Hybrid work model catching on in India

Most organisations want to give their employees the preference to choose their work model

YUTHIKA BHARGAVA
NEW DELHI

With the world seemingly getting back to normal after the severe disruptions caused by the pandemic, most businesses are now asking their employees to get back to office, while some are adopting a hybrid working model

According to a recent survey by people supply chain company TeamLease, a little over 58% of responding organisations from industries ranging from technology to automobile, believe that 2022 is the year offices will become completely in-office. Only about 5% of respondents said that they intend to stay a virtual-only organisation for the foreseeable future.

"For most companies, the journey to move from being 100% in office to 100% virtual had been reasonably smooth. The fact that this lasted for a long time and many believed work forever could be in this model. However, most underestimated that coming to work is not just about doing work," Nitin Sethi, chief executive officer, human capital solutions, India & South Asia, Aon, a global professional services firm, told *The Hindu*.

All in a day's work: Experts say some employees and roles will move more hybrid than others. • GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Mr. Sethi said humans needed social infrastructure, and given that a large part of time was spent at work, the office fulfilled that need. The best companies were ensuring they keep some advantages of working virtual and at the same time build and keep the advantage of having people at work (engagement, productivity, culture, teamwork and so on), he said.

"As companies make this transition, some employees, some roles, some teams will definitely move more hybrid than others and some may completely. At the same time, some employees, both current and prospective, may feel that they are better off choosing one model over the other... Talent catchment areas have increases and this changed will lead to better and more diverse (not just gender) talent pool and we know that better diversity of talent delivers superior business results," he said.

The TeamLease survey found that though 43.46% of HR leaders conceded that their employees wanted to return to work, 76.78% of organisations wanted to give their employees the preference to choose their work model. Additionally, 36.61% of respondents claimed they had an office space on lease pre-pandemic, but moved to co-working spaces later.

Flexible space

"The flexible workspaces segment was already on a strong growth curve before the pandemic; COVID-19 further disrupted the office market and expedited this migration. Consequently, businesses are proactively looking to change their work environment and make it more flexible and resilient," Harsh Lambah, country manager, India, and vice-president, sales, South Asia, IWG (International Workspace Group), said.

IWG, he said, has signed more than 1,000 enterprise deals in the first quarter of 2022 and has witnessed a month-on-month increase of around 35% in footfall across its centres in the last three months. "What we are seeing is a rise in demand within the smaller, regional markets, with the highest demand growth of all being within tertiary markets. Since the pandemic, suburban office spaces started winning out at the expense of flashy city centres. That's partly down to the growing adoption of the hub-and-spoke model," he said.

Mr. Lambah added that large corporates and enterprises continue looking for flexible options for their workforce and this trend is visible across the industry and getting stronger as companies are calling their employees back to the offices.

"As all organisations are evaluating what would be their version of future of work, we at Ericsson are exploring our future workplace from a physical, virtual and cultural perspective to cater for greater flexibility and new ways of working. We believe the future of our work will be 'hybrid' on the back of technology which will be the game changer as well as the enabler," Priyanka Anand, vice-president and head, HR, Southeast Asia Oceania and India, Ericsson, said.

Ms. Anand said Ericsson was looking at work as an activity that is location agnostic, in short "work from anywhere". Through a hybrid work model, its line managers are empowered to approve when their teams can work-from-home and working remotely is voluntary as it believes that our offices play a key role in building a strong culture and belonging in Ericsson.

Likewise, Tech Mahindra said its employees continue to have the flexibility to work from anywhere and expects this trend of hybrid working to ramp up. "Having said that, we see that many associates at Tech Mahindra are recharting their routes back-to-office and are looking forward to meeting their teams in person," said Harshvendra Soin, global chief people officer & head, marketing, Tech Mahindra.

Amrit Sarovar mission could boost infrastructure projects

Soil obtained from deepening ponds to be put to use

S. VIJAY KUMAR
CHENNAI

In a move that could expedite the implementation of railway and highway projects across the country, the Centre has asked the Ministry of Railways and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to use the soil or silt excavated from ponds and tanks in all districts under the *Amrit Sarovar* mission for their infrastructure projects.

The water conservation mission launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 24 aims at developing and rejuvenating 75 waterbodies in each district in all States as part of the celebrations of *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav*. At least 50,000 waterbodies are expected to be rejuvenated during the nationwide programme that would culminate on August 15, 2023.

Since the project would involve excavation of several thousands of tonnes of earth in the form of soil or silt, the Ministry of Rural Development has told the Ministry of Railways and the NHAI to map its infrastructure projects with the Amrit Sarovar sites in all States and UTs.

Optimum use: Rural Development Ministry tells NHAI to map its project with Amrit Sarovar. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The General Managers of all Zonal Railways were told to nominate the Chief Administrative Officer (Construction) as the nodal officer who would identify the nearest sites of *Amrit Sarovar* to ongoing railway projects, study the suitability of the desilted soil and silt and submit a feasibility report at the earliest.

According to railway sources, many railway projects were held up due to the delay in getting the required quantity of burrow earth from the local authorities. Though the issue was flagged at the appropriate level, the timely availability of earth remained a challenge.

Road projects

According to official sources, the *Amrit Sarovar* mission will cater to the requirements of projects being implemented by the NHAI.

In Tamil Nadu, the issue of allowing contractors to lift burrow earth became so intense that in February this year the NHAI threatened to cancel the road widening work of East Coast Road between Mamallapuram and Puducherry.

However, the issue was resolved after the State government assured them of resolving the issue.

SUDOKU

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4		1		9			3	2
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8	1	2	7	6	5	3	9	4
7	6	3	9	2	4	1	5	8
4	5	9	3	1	8	7	6	2
5	3	4	2	9	7	8	1	6
2	9	1	8	4	6	5	3	7
6	8	7	5	3	1	4	2	9
1	2	8	4	5	9	6	7	3
9	7	6	1	8	3	2	4	5
3	4	5	6	7	2	9	8	1

Garlic prices lose pungency, farmers irked in two States

With government yet to begin procurement, many are forced to destroy their yield unable to meet even the transport cost

A.M. JIGEESH
NEW DELHI

Exactly five years after a police firing claimed the lives of six garlic farmers in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh, during a protest demanding minimum support price for their produce, farmers in the districts on the boundary of the State and Rajasthan are up in arms against the Union and the State governments for price as low as ₹2 a kg.

They are from areas such as Kota, Ratlam, Mandsaur, Jhalawar, Baran, Neemuch and Ujjain, known as the "garlic belt" of the country, that contributes almost 50% of India's garlic production. The farmers demand that the Centre and the States immediately announce a market intervention scheme and start procuring garlic. They have decided to launch agitations under the banner of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha.

What has added to their worry is that purchase by food processing industries has come down as their products such as garlic powder, paste and sauce have not moved much in the past two years due to low demand and consumption.

Low yield

The Indian Council of Agriculture Research has taken cognisance of the low yield in garlic. "The main reason for the yield is virus load. We have recommended that the seed production cycle should be changed and fresh seeds from hilly areas such as Ooty and Himachal Pradesh should be considered. Ooty has the best-quality seeds. If one variety is continuously grown, it affects the productivity. Many farmers have replaced the seeds. We are working to remove these viruses," said Major Singh, Director of ICAR Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research, Pune.

Mahesh Khandelwal, general secretary of the Kota Grain and Seeds Merchant Association, said the traders suffered huge losses due to the situation. "We had urged the Union and the State governments to start procurement. The market intervention scheme is approved by the Centre, but the State government hasn't started procurement. More than one lakh tonnes of garlic was to be procured by these markets, but nothing has happened yet," Mr. Khandelwal said. Food processing industries used to procure almost the entire "lottery quality" (small garlic) from the Kota market. "The export has also come down," he said.

Urgent hearing: Officials of farmers' organisation have taken up the matter with Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. • FILE PHOTO

According to the Rajasthan Agriculture Department, garlic is grown on about 1.15 lakh hectares in the Kota division of Rajasthan this year. Farmers say that on one hectare, the average minimum production is 50 quintals.

"Now the rate is ₹2 to ₹15 a kg depending on the quality of garlic. Almost 25% of the total production is of 'lottery quality' every year. This year, it has gone up to 50% due to the early summer and heat wave," All India Kisan Sabha leader Dulichand Borda said. Himself a garlic farmer, Mr. Borda said farmers had suffered huge losses.

"We got ₹50 a kg for good quality garlic in the last season and ₹7 to ₹8 for lottery quality. The production was slightly better last year than this year. Sixty-five quintals was the average production last time and lottery quality was also less," he added.

The production cost is about ₹ 2.5 lakh per hectare. After the Mandsaur firings, the Centre and both the State governments had announced a market intervention scheme with a price of ₹ 3,250 for a quintal of garlic in 2018. "Now after four years, the input cost has increased at least 50%. The Centre is learnt to have approved the scheme at a rate of ₹2,957 per quintal, but the procurement hasn't started yet as the State government is yet to receive any proper order from the Centre.," said Mahesh Vyas, president of Rashtriya Kisan Mazdur Mahasangh, the organisation that led the farmers' agitation in 2017 said.

Mr. Vyas and Mr. Borda have taken up the matter with the respective State governments and with Kota MP and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla.

Samyukt Kisan Morcha leader Shivkumar Kakkaji said the the main issue is that garlic does not have a minimum support price.

"The government should consider a support price mechanism for essential vegetables such as potatoes, onions and garlic. Onion farmers in the area are also forced to sell their produce at a rate of ₹2 to ₹ 5," Mr. Kakkaji said.

Mr. Vyas added that farmers are forced to destroy garlic as they are unable to meet even the transportation charges to the market.

Zelensky visits southern battlefront

Mykolaiv is a key target for Russia as it lies on the way to the strategic Black Sea port of Odessa

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
KYIV

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky visited the war-torn southern frontline on Saturday for the first time since the Russian invasion as "fierce battles" raged again in the eastern Donbas region.

Making a rare trip outside Kyiv, where he is based for security reasons, Mr. Zelensky travelled to the hold-out Black Sea city of Mykolaiv and visited troops nearby and in the neighbouring Odessa region.

Russian forces have directed their firepower on the east and south of Ukraine in recent weeks since failing in their bid to take the capital Kyiv after the lightning February 24 invasion.

"It is important that you are alive. As long as you live there is a strong Ukrainian wall that protects our country," Mr. Zelensky told soldiers in the Odessa region.

"I want to thank you from the people of Ukraine, from our state for the great work you are doing, for your impeccable service."

Final farewell: Soldiers holding flares as they attend the funeral of activist and soldier Roman Ratushnyi in Kyiv, Ukraine, on Saturday. •AP

Mykolaiv is a key target for Russia as it lies on the way to the strategic Black Sea port of Odessa. It is around 100 kilometres northwest of Kherson, which fell to Russia in the first weeks of the war.

Mr. Zelensky surveyed the badly-damaged regional administration building in Mykolaiv and met officials in what appeared to be a basement where he handed out awards to soldiers, in a video released by his office.

The shockwaves from the war in Ukraine continue to reverberate around the world, with the Russian blockade of the port of Odessa blamed for a grain shortage that is fuelling a global food crisis.

Mr. Zelensky has appealed for western support and weapons to push out Russian forces, and got a boost on Friday when the European Commission backed it for EU candidate status.

'Historic achievement'

He hailed it as a "historic achievement" in his nightly video address late Friday.

Full membership could take years but the bloc's 27 leaders could add Ukraine to the list of countries vying for membership as early as a summit next week.

The leaders of the bloc's biggest members – France, Germany and Italy – backed the idea during a visit to Kyiv this week, even as fighting rages elsewhere in the country.

The worst of the bloodshed continues to be in the eastern industrial Donbas region, with battles raging in villages outside the city of Severodonetsk, which Russia has been trying to seize for weeks.

"Now the most fierce battles are near Severodonetsk. They (Russia) do not control the city entirely," the Governor of the eastern Luhansk region, Sergiy Gaiday, said on Telegram.

Mr. Gaiday said there was "more destruction" at the besieged Azot chemical plant in Severodonetsk, where he said 568 people were sheltering, including 38 children.

He also said Lysychansk – a Ukrainian-controlled city across a river from battered Severodonetsk – is being "heavily shelled".

Johnson confident of legality of Rwanda migrant plan

Human rights court injunction last-minute hiccup: British PM

REUTERS
LONDON

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson said on Saturday he was confident of the legality of his government's plan to send some asylum seekers to Rwanda after the first flight was blocked at the last minute by the European human rights court.

The court issued an injunction on Tuesday to stop the scheduled deportation of a handful of migrants on board, a decision Mr. Johnson described as a "weird last-minute hiccup".

"Every single court in this country said there was no obstacle that they could see, no court in this country ruled the policy unlawful which was very, very encouraging," Mr. Johnson told reporters. "We are very confident in the legality, the lawfulness of what we are doing and we are going to pursue the policy."

Asylum seekers: Migrants disembarking from a U.K. Border Force vessel, in this file photo. •AFP

The British government's plan to send some migrants to the East African country has been criticised by opponents, charities, and religious leaders who say it is inhumane.

The government has been forced to fight a series of legal challenges in London courts aiming to stop it going ahead.

Britain says the 120-million-pound deal struck with Rwanda will stem the flow of dangerous cross-Channel trips and smash the business model of people-smuggling networks.

Earlier this week, Britain's Home Office published guidance on a 12-month pilot using electronic tagging to monitor individuals who arrive in the country illegally.

On Saturday, the Home Office said some of those who had been due to be on Tuesday's flight to Rwanda could be tagged.

Israel says warplanes hit Hamas sites in Gaza after rocket fire

Weapons manufacturing site targeted, Army says

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JERUSALEM

Israeli warplanes hit Hamas military sites in the Gaza Strip on Saturday in retaliation for rocket fire from the Palestinian enclave run by the Islamist movement, the Israeli Army said.

"A short while ago, in response to the rocket attack, (Israeli military) aircraft struck a number of Hamas terror targets in the Gaza Strip," the Army said in a statement. The strikes came after Hamas "launched a rocket... toward Israeli civilians in southern Israel", it said, adding the projectile was intercepted by Israel's air defences.

The Israeli "aircraft targeted a weapons manufacturing site located inside a Hamas military post and an additional three military posts belonging to Hamas", the statement said.

After the strikes, balls of flame shot into the air, leaving dark smoke drifting over the territory.

Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem said the air raids, in the southeast of Gaza City, "are an extension of the aggression against Palestinian territory in Jerusalem and the occupied West Bank," after the killing of three Palestinians on Friday during an Army raid in Jenin. Twelve Palestinians were also wounded.

Iran fighter jet crashes, two crew injured

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
TEHRAN

An F-14 fighter jet crashed on Saturday while on a mission in central Iran, causing injuries to its two crew members, media in the Islamic republic reported.

"The fighter jet suffered a technical fault... and the pilot and co-pilot landed with parachutes," said Rassoul Motamedi, spokesman for the military in Isfahan province where the crash occurred. The crew were taken to hospital for treatment, he added.

British journalist confirmed dead in Brazil

He and his guide had gone missing on a book research trip in the Amazon

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
ATALAIA DO NORTE

The Brazilian police on Friday officially identified the remains of British journalist Dom Phillips who was found buried in the Amazon after going missing on a book research trip.

The grim result comes after the disappearance on June 5 of Phillips and his guide, indigenous expert Bruno Pereira, ignited an international outcry, with the U.S. calling on Friday for "accountability".

Phillips was identified through "forensic dentistry combined with forensic anthropology", the Federal Police said in a statement.

Vital clues: Officers carrying a coffin containing the remains of the British journalist and his guide, in Brasilia. •REUTERS

The police said they were still working on "complete identification" of the unearthed remains, which may include those of Pereira, who had received multiple death threats.

Phillips, 57, and Pereira, 41, went missing in a remote part of the rainforest rife with illegal mining, fishing and logging, as well as drug trafficking. Ten days later, a suspect named Amarildo da Costa de Oliveira took the police to a place where, he said, he had buried bodies near the city of Atalaia do Norte, where the pair had been headed by boat. Remains unearthed from the site arrived in Brasilia on Thursday evening for identification by forensics experts.

Sri Lanka Army to cultivate barren land

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
COLOMBO

The Sri Lanka Army will take part in a farming drive aimed at cultivating over 1,500 acres of barren or abandoned state land to multiply food production and avert any shortage in the future, according to a media report.

The Army established its Green Agriculture Steering Committee on Thursday to supplement and promote the food security programme in Sri Lanka which is facing its worst economic crisis since independence from Britain in 1948.

The troops will first prepare the ground by weeding, tilling and preparing beds for the cultivation of selected seed varieties in consultation with agricultural experts, *newsfirst.lk* reported on Friday. The project will be kicked off by early July.

'Pak. confident of exiting dirty money grey list'

We are one step away, says Minister

REUTERS
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan is "one step away" from exiting a dirty money "grey list" after the global watchdog said an on-site visit could lead to the South Asian nation's removal, the State Minister for Foreign Affairs said on Saturday.

Hina Rabbani Khar

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) kept Pakistan on the list on Friday but said a visit to verify progress on countering financing of terrorism and money laundering could lead to its removal from countries under increased monitoring.

"Pakistan is one step away from exiting the grey list, God willing," the Minister, Hina Rabbani Khar, told a news conference in Islamabad.

Ms. Khar said Islamabad will be preparing for the on-site visit before the FATF's next plenary in October, adding that the FATF will be visiting and inspecting all the measures and legislation Pakistan had implemented on money laundering and terrorism financing.

She said Pakistan was confident of getting off the list, which would help build confidence in its economic framework. "We have not only met the timeline. We have outperformed the timeline," the Minister said. "I'm very confident that if we remain on the same trajectory, we will get out of it, and will never return on this path again."

25 killed as floods ravage Bangladesh

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
SYLHET

Monsoon storms in Bangladesh have killed at least 25 people and unleashed devastating floods that left more than four million others stranded, officials said on Saturday.

Relentless downpours over the past week have inundated vast stretches of the country's northeast with troops deployed to evacuate people from flooded areas. Schools have been turned into relief shelters to house entire villages inundated in a matter of hours by rivers that suddenly burst their banks.

Lightning strikes triggered by the storms have killed at least 21 people across the country since Friday, officials said. Four people were killed when landslips hit their hillside homes in Chittagong.

Tunisians oppose Constitution referendum

Thousands march in capital to protest against President Saied's 'personal project'

REUTERS
TUNIS

Thousands of protesters took to the streets of Tunis on Saturday in opposition to a referendum on a new Constitution called by President Kais Saied that would cement his hold on power.

The protest led by Abir Moussi, leader of the Free Constitutional Party, reflected growing opposition to Mr. Saied since he seized executive power last year, dissolving Parliament and ruling by decree in a move opponents called a coup.

Thousands marched from Bab Souika Square in the capital towards Kasbah Square, waving Tunisian flags.

"Tunisians are starving, public finances are collapsing, but Saied does not care.. He only focuses on a personal project to impose his Constitution.. we will not accept that," Mr. Moussi told the crowd.

Stiff resistance: Demonstrators gathering during a protest in Tunis on Saturday. •REUTERS

More powers

Mr. Saied is seeking to overhaul the Constitution to give the presidency more powers, against the backdrop of a tanking economy and fears of a public finance crisis.

He intends to put the new Constitution to a referendum on July 25.

"Do not impose your referendum on us. We do not recognise your referendum that will be fraudulent," a woman among the protesters said.

Mr. Saied has appointed a new electoral commission, casting doubts over the credibility of any vote.

The President has also appointed a temporary judicial council and sacked dozens of judges.

His supporters say Mr. Saied is standing up to elite forces whose bungling and corruption have condemned Tunisia to a decade of political paralysis and economic stagnation.

However Tunisia's main political parties have said they will boycott the referendum, and the powerful UGTT labour union has refused to take part in talks on the new Constitution.

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SNAPSHOTS

Black death
A strain of *Yersinia pestis*, the bacterium responsible for the Black Death pandemic in the 1300s (AD1346–1353), has been traced back to a fourteenth-century outbreak in what is now Kyrgyzstan. The area was located on the Silk Road trade route, which might have helped the Black Death pandemic to spread westwards.

Spreading desert
Deserts are spreading northwards in Central Asia as a result of global warming. A study has found that, since the 1980s, regions with a desert climate have expanded by as much as 100 kilometres in northern Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan, in southern Kazakhstan and around the Junggar Basin in Northwest China.

Unforeseen effects
During the current extreme heatwave in Jacobabad, Pakistan, with temperatures peaking over 51°C, the burden is particularly high for women during pregnancy and for homemakers as well. For every 1°C in temperature rise, the number of stillbirths and premature deliveries increases by about 5%.

Robots in labs
Cloud labs enable scientists to perform wet-laboratory experiments remotely in an automated research environment. The work is basically done by machines aided by a few human technicians. The cost of the experiments is not cheap, but the fact that it is almost all done by robots makes it eminently reproducible.

What drives sustained growth of monkeypox cases

Sustained transmission in heterosexual population is unlikely in all scenarios studied

R. PRASAD

As of June 15, a total of 1,882 monkeypox cases have been lab-confirmed from more than 30 countries across the world. With 1,158 confirmed cases from 22 countries, Europe has reported the highest number of cases so far, according to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. The U.S. has reported 83 cases across 19 States as of June 16.

While monkeypox has been endemic in about a dozen countries in Central and West Africa, the virus is not endemic in people. "Nearly all" monkeypox outbreaks in these countries have been due to the virus jumping across the species barrier from animals to humans.

Sustained human-to-human transmission in the endemic countries has been "rare", Dr. Christian Happi from the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Diseases (ACEGID), Redeemer's University, Nigeria and others write in a report posted in virological.org.

Outbreaks in the endemic countries in Africa have witnessed only a "limited" proportion of cases spread among humans, with sustained transmission observed only up to seven generations. And the basic reproduction number (R0) for monkeypox in the endemic countries has been less than one, even among populations that have not received smallpox vaccination. The basic reproduction number being less than one would mean that "outbreaks would fade out if without continuous introductions from animals", Dr. Akira Endo from the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London, tweeted.

In contrast, the current outbreak in the U.S., Europe, Middle East and Australia has shown a clear trend of sustained spread among people, particularly among men who have sex with men (MSM). Before this outbreak, there have been about 100 cases of monkeypox cases outside Africa, with the outbreak in the U.S in 2003 being the biggest with over 70 people infected by the virus. But all the 70 cases were due to exposure to imported animals with no human-to-human transmission reported back then. In the past, outside Africa, the virus had spread to just one healthcare worker and two household contacts, a far cry from the sustained human-to-human transmission now being reported.

Modelling exercise
To explain the vastly different pattern of spread to a large number of people within a month after the first case was reported in the U.K. on May 7, Dr. Endo and others used a mathematical model based on sexual partnership data in the U.K., to explain the epidemiology of the current outbreak. The results of the modelling exercise have been posted in *medRxiv* preprint server; preprints are yet to be peer-reviewed.

Increased importation of the virus, undetected spread in the community, virus evolution, and increased susceptibility to monkeypox virus infection due to smallpox vaccination coming to an end a few decades ago could be possible reasons for the current outbreak outside Africa The researchers point out that most of these factors are "not strongly supported by external (if indirect) evidence" nor able to explain human spread predominantly among men who have sex with men (MSM) and not widespread in the general population in the community.

The driver
The researchers found that a "small fraction of individuals who have disproportionately large numbers of partners" must be responsible for the sustained human-to-human transmission of the virus among men who have sex with men.

This is the largest outbreak predominantly among men who have sex with men. In Nigeria, higher prevalence and lesions in the genital area have been recorded in a recent outbreak.

"Our model suggests that the MSM population has possibly always been at risk of a sustained outbreak. The reason we haven't seen an outbreak among MSM before might be that the virus had not reached this network given how few cases there were in total," Dr. Endo tweeted.

The researchers explain this in more detail in the preprint when they say that monkeypox virus always had a "substantial transmission potential in the MSM" community even in the past but the small number of imported cases outside Africa likely resulted in the virus not spreading to this network resulting in large-scale transmission.

The researchers also modelled outbreaks that are sexually associated in both MSM and non-MSM populations. They considered varying assumptions for the risk of transmission between sexual partners in both these groups.

In contrast to a small fraction of MSM individuals who have a large number of partners thus increasing the virus spread to many people in the MSM community, the researchers found sustained spread in the non-MSM population "unlikely" due to less probability of a few individuals having multiple sex partners. But "10-10,000 additional cases may be observed if a substantial number of infections are introduced into the non-MSM sexual contact network," they write.

Seeding the outbreak
They note that a "very small number of sexually-associated transmissions" in the MSM community is sufficient to cause a large outbreak. In contrast, a large number of non-sexually-associated imported cases are needed for the virus to gain a foothold in the MSM community and then spread to large number of people through sexually-associated spread. And this may be the reason why the virus did not reach the MSM community in the past through imported non-sexual cases. They note that better surveillance in the endemic countries might be needed if the current outbreak outside Africa in the MSM community had come about from a few sexually-associated cases imported from the endemic countries.

"Without sufficient interventions, we may see continued growth in MSM. Monkeypox virus can infect anyone; the non-MSM population will also be affected if we fail to contain it. Tailored and non-stigmatising messaging/support for those at highest risk would be key to earliest containment," Dr Endo tweeted. Targeted messaging is necessary for prevention and early detection of cases among MSM who have multiple partners, the authors write.

Quantum diamond microscope to image magnetic fields

Researchers tap fluorescence changes in special, diamond sensors to image time-varying fields

SHUBASHREE DESIKAN

Researchers from the Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) at Mumbai and Kharagpur have built a microscope that can image magnetic fields within microscopic two-dimensional samples that change over milliseconds. This has a huge potential for scientific applications, such as in measuring biological activity of neurons and dynamics of vortices in superconductors. The work, led by IIT Bombay professor Kasturi Saha, from the Department of Electrical Engineering, has been published in *Scientific Reports*. This is the first time that such a tool has been built to image magnetic fields that change within milliseconds.

Capturing change
Prof. Saha explains that the ideal frame rate to capture a changing magnetic field is one that captures data at twice the frequency of the changing field. Signals in nature exhibit a range of frequencies – magnetism in geological rock samples and rare earth magnets can be constant over months; magnetic nanoparticle aggregation inside living cells takes place in minutes; action potentials in neurons are fast, taking milliseconds, whereas precession of atomic spins in complex molecules takes only microseconds. The instrument that this team has built works in the millisecond range.

The key aspect of this sensor is a "nitrogen vacancy (NV) defect centre" in a diamond crystal. Such NV centres act as pseudo atoms with electronic states that are sensitive to the fields and gradients around them (magnetic fields, temperature, electric field and strain).

"Notably, the fluorescence emitted from these NV centres encodes the magnetic field information," says Prof. Saha. "During the measurement of ultra-small magnetic fields, the change in the fluorescence levels is extremely small and therefore, limits the imaging frame rate and degrades the signal-to-noise ratio of the measurement."

Huge potential: The set-up shows a green laser at 532 nanometre to excite the nitrogen vacancy centres.

In order to overcome this limitation, the researchers employed a "lock-in detection scheme" which selects light fluctuations of a small frequency range, rejecting others, and thereby improving the sensitivity to small changes in fluorescence.

Improved frame rates
Earlier reported magnetic field imaging frame rates were close to 1-10 minutes per frame. This would increase to about half an hour per frame for challenging samples like biological cells. The instrument built by this group exhibits an imaging frame rate of about 50-200 frames per second, which would translate into a frame acquisition time of about 2-5 milliseconds. "It enables imaging of millisecond scale magnetisation changes in micro-magnets, dynamic micro scale thermometry in cells and with further improvements, might enable probing action potentials in mammalian neurons," says Prof. Saha.

A special diamond crystal, one micrometre thick, embedded with a high density of such NV centres is created. This acts as a sensor when a thin two-dimensional sample is brought close to it – less than 10 micrometre. Using this technique, the researchers can image a 150 micrometre by 150 micrometre field of view, which is quite an achievement.

"The NV centre imaging technique is a unique tool in the context of imaging microscale magnetic field variations in any sample," says Prof. Saha.

The team had started a collaboration with IIT Kharagpur in 2017 with the ambitious target of building a novel system to image the brain. They collaborated with Sharba Bandopadhyay, who brought in an expertise in neurobiology and bioengineering to complement the knowledge of quantum optics, quantum computing and quantum sensing that was Prof. Saha's forte.

"We have, along with PhD student Madhur Parashar, developed an algorithm to image neurons in 3D using NV quantum sensors," says Prof. Saha.

This work was published in *Communications Physics* in 2020. We have jointly filed a patent for the present work, she adds.

Omicron infection after vaccination

REUTERS

People infected with the earliest version of the Omicron variant of the coronavirus, first identified in South Africa in November, may be vulnerable to reinfection with later versions of Omicron even if they have been vaccinated and boosted, new findings suggest.

Vaccinated patients with Omicron BA.1 breakthrough infections developed antibodies that could neutralise that virus, but the Omicron sublineages circulating now have mutations that allow them to evade those antibodies.

Those newer sublineages "notably evade the neutralizing antibodies elicited by SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination," the researchers found in test-tube experiments.

How marine heatwave fuelled super cyclone Amphan

Besides surface warming, ocean stratification and warming below the surface also played a role

SAURABH RATHORE

Rising greenhouse gas emission is the primary factor for anthropogenic (human-induced) climate change. The increase in carbon dioxide concentration can trap the radiation into the atmosphere and not let it go into space. This trapping of the extra energy increases the average surface air temperature and warms the climate that we know as global warming.

As the capacity of the atmosphere to absorb the heat is very less, more than 90% of the extra heat that has been trapped in the climate system has been absorbed by the oceans since 1970, according to IPCC AR5, and IPCC AR6 reports. Due to this, oceans are warming globally from the surface to deeper depths. The warming of the oceans has severe consequences such as increasing intensity and frequency of extreme events, rising sea levels, melting glaciers, and changing the weather pattern across the globe.

Faster warming
Previous studies have shown that due to global warming, the tropical Indian Ocean, at the surface, is warming at a faster rate as compared to the rest of the global ocean. The high sea surface temperatures are more susceptible to generating extreme temperature conditions that persist over days to months and are termed as Marine Heatwaves (MHWs). This intense warming of the ocean due to MHW has severe socio-economic consequences such as fish mortality, and coral bleaching, and also has the potential to interact and modify other extreme events such as tropical cyclones.

The anthropogenic warming of the oceans and atmosphere facilitates the generation and intensification of extreme events such as MHWs and tropical cyclones. Both marine heat waves and tropical cyclones are the extreme events of the ocean-atmosphere coupled system. Our study, published in the *Frontiers in Climate*, is the first study conducted in the Indian Ocean that investigates the interaction between a marine heatwave and super cyclone Amphan in the Bay of Bengal in May 2020. The co-occurrence of multiple extreme events (e.g. in our case the co-occurring marine heatwave and tropical cyclone) are termed compound extreme events.

Unique kind: Amphan was the first super cyclone in the Bay of Bengal in the last 21 years. • AP

Sea surface temperature
The Bay of Bengal exhibits high sea surface temperatures (about 28°C) throughout the year and is more prone to tropical cyclones. The Bay of Bengal is home to about 5-7% of the total number of tropical cyclones occurring globally each year and this makes the North Indian Ocean vulnerable to the highest number of fatalities globally. Amphan was the first super cyclone in the Bay of Bengal in the last 21 years and intensified from category 1 (cyclonic storm) to category 5 (super cyclone) in less than 24 hours. Amphan was also the costliest tropical cyclone on record in the North Indian Ocean, with reported economic losses of approximately $14 billion in India, according to the World Meteorological Organisation and 129 casualties across India and Bangladesh. According to the latest IPCC report (AR6), Amphan was the largest source of displacement in 2020, with 2.4 million displacements in India alone, out of which around 8,00,000 was pre-emptive evacuation by the authorities. Our study investigates the reasons that made this unusual and unprecedented rapid intensification of cyclone Amphan into a devastating super cyclonic storm.

The cause
We found the presence of a strong MHW beneath the track of the cyclone with an extremely high anomalous sea surface temperature of more than 2.5°C that coincided with the cyclone track and facilitated its rapid intensification in a short period. We have also compared the super cyclone Amphan to a previous extremely severe cyclone Fani in May 2019 with a near similar trajectory. We found that the total life span of Amphan over the ocean was five days as compared to Fani which was for seven days but Fani did not turn into a super cyclone as Amphan did.

The main difference between these two cyclones was the presence of MHW in the case of Amphan, which was not there in the case of Fani. We also infer that despite short duration and unfavourable atmospheric conditions relative to Fani, Amphan turned into a super cyclone, primarily fuelled by a strong MHW on its way. Apart from the surface warming, the study also shows that ocean stratification and warming below the surface also play a crucial role during this phenomenon of compound extreme events.

Our study along with previous studies also discusses that such compound or individual extreme events are going to increase in the future due to global warming and the Indian Ocean will witness the increased intensity and frequency of such climate extremes. Hence, our study provides new perspectives on the interactions between different extreme events that could aid in improving the current understanding of compound extreme events that have severe socio-economic consequences in affected countries. We believe that our study will be very helpful for the political and scientific authorities to make better disaster management and mitigation planning for our vulnerable coastal communities from such extreme events.

(Saurabh Rathore is a researcher at LOCEAN-IPSL Sorbonne University, Paris, France)

Question Corner

Domestic chicken

When and where were chickens domesticated?

New findings transform our understanding of the circumstances and timing of the domestication of chickens and their spread across Asia into the West. Researchers have found that an association with rice farming likely started a process that has led to chickens becoming one of the world's most numerous animals. Previous efforts have claimed that chickens were domesticated up to 10,000 years ago in China, Southeast Asia, or India, and that chickens were present in Europe over 7,000 years ago.

The new studies show that this is wrong, and that the driving force behind chicken domestication was the arrival of dry rice farming into southeast Asia where their wild ancestor, the red jungle fowl, lived. Dry rice farming acted as a magnet drawing wild jungle fowl down from the trees, and kickstarting a closer relationship between people and the jungle fowl that resulted in chickens, according to a University of Exeter press release.

This domestication process was underway by around 1,500 BC in the Southeast Asia peninsula. The research suggests that chickens were then transported first across Asia and then throughout the Mediterranean along routes used by early Greek, Etruscan and Phoenician maritime traders.

The international team of experts re-evaluated chicken remains found in more than 600 sites in 89 countries.

The oldest bones of a definite domestic chicken were found at Neolithic Ban Non Wat in central Thailand, and date to between 1,650 and 1,250 BC.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

The 5G auction plan

Why are telcos unhappy with the Government's decision to set aside airwaves for private enterprises?

JOHN XAVIER

The story so far: On Wednesday, the Union Cabinet approved auction of 5G spectrum bands, and said it has reserved a portion of airwaves for captive private networks, a proposal opposed by telecom service providers. The auction of over 72 GHz of airwaves is set to be held by the end of July.

What set the ball rolling for 5G technology in India?

■ The world's second-largest telecom market is one of the few major countries without 5G service. The Union government's delay in auctioning off spectrum bands is a result of its rounds of consultations with various stakeholders to decide on bands that can be sold, block sizes, and the reserve price. The telecom service providers are ready to commercially roll out 5G to customers. In January, Reliance Jio said it completed next generation network coverage planning for nearly 1,000 cities in the country. A year ago, Airtel demonstrated 5G over a live commercial network in Hyderabad. Vodafone, before its merger with Idea, in 2017 said it had "upgraded entire radio network to all-IP technology, ready even for 5G".

What are captive private networks and why do they need spectrum bands?

■ Private wireless networks are cellular networks built specifically for individual enterprises. These networks are often deployed at a single unit, for example a factory. They can also be used in a wide-area setting, for instance to monitor a mine in real-time. Airports and ports can also have their own private 5G cellular network to process imaging data coming from surveillance cameras to manage the facility. Several enterprises around the world are working on setting up private 5G networks as they offer reliable, fast, and secure wireless communication.

According to an Economist Impact survey of 216 technology executives in Germany, Japan, the U.K. and the U.S., over half said they plan to deploy a private 5G network within six-24 months. That is on top of nearly 30% executives who have already deployed or are in the process of deploying private 5G networks in their organisations. The key reason driving this adoption is the need for greater data privacy and security. Unlike unlicensed Wi-Fi service available at several private places, licensed spectrum bands offer greater data privacy, security and faster connection speeds.

> Telecom service providers worry that providing industries with 5G spectrum allocation to set up private networks will diminish their own revenue from the next generation of cellular services

How does Industry 4.0 relate to 5G?

■ Cellular technology has come a long way in the last four decades. Each generation has added a layer of sophistication over another starting with voice. Over the years, three generations of cellular airwaves enabled users to text, use Internet and view live-streaming video all at the same time.

Unlike its predecessors, the latest wireless iteration opens a new paradigm in cellular connectivity. That's because the true benefits of 5G largely apply to industrial enterprises than individual users. Think about industrial AI-enabled robots on shop floors and warehouses, autonomous vehicles on the road, and mixed-reality headsets with advanced mobile applications that train workers. Each of these scenarios require high-speed computing using real-time data at low latency. This is at the core of the fourth industrial revolution where devices talk to each other to perform various tasks. Big tech firms like Google have been seeking direct allocation of spectrum to use in machine learning applications, connected devices and general AI advancement.

How does the government plan to set aside spectrum for private network operators?

■ The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has said that private firms can set up a 5G network by either getting a slice of public network from a licensed telecom company, establishing an isolated on premises network from the telecom service provider's spectrum, or obtaining spectrum directly from the Department of Telecom or by sub-leasing it from telcos.

The notice inviting the offer also states that spectrum auction to private enterprises will follow after a demand study and based on TRAI's recommendation on pricing and modalities of block allocations. The telecom regulator expects its recommendations to result in increased sharing of network resources.

Is it a setback for telcos?

■ The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) is of the firm view that "there is no justification whatsoever for allocating spectrum to industry verticals for operating private captive networks." The association wrote to the Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw even before the Union Cabinet approved its 5G auction decision, requesting him to address the critical issue of private networks. It said that there will be no business case for 5G rollout in such a scenario. This stems from their concern that 5G technology has more industry use case than for individual consumers. So, telcos worry that providing industries 5G spectrum allocation to set up private networks will diminish their own revenue from the next generation of cellular services.

Why is Agnipath under widespread attack?

Will the Centre go ahead with the reformed recruitment plan for the three wings of the armed forces?

S. ANANDAN

The story so far: Large-scale violence by distressed youth broke out in many parts of India, notably in States such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, and Telangana which contribute a sizeable manpower to the armed forces, in the wake of the Centre announcing, on June 14, a new scheme of recruitment of jawans, personnel below officer ranks (PBORs), to the three wings.

What is the scheme?

■ Agnipath or Tour of Duty will be the only mode of recruitment of soldiers, sailors, and airmen from now on. It envisages enlisting youths aged between 17.5 years and 21 years – the upper limit has been extended to 23 years this year after protests – for a period of just four years, also counting their training time. At the expiry of their contract, only 25% of these soldiers, to be known as *Agniveers*, will be re-enlisted for regular military service.

While the salary package of *Agniveers* will be around ₹4.76 lakh in the first year which can go up to ₹6.92 lakh in the fourth year, these short-term soldiers will also be offered a contributory severance package besides non-contributory death and disability compensation. They will not be eligible for pension or gratuity. A day after the scheme was unveiled by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the presence of the Service chiefs, the Union Ministry of Education said it would offer a three-year degree programme to these enlistees in order to make them employable once out of service. As protests rocked the country, the Ministry of Home Affairs, on Saturday, announced its decision to reserve 10% of vacancies in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and the Assam Rifles to *Agniveers*. The Defence Minister also approved of a proposal to earmark 10% of vacancies in Coast Guard, defence civilian jobs and in the defence PSUs for *Agniveers* provided they meet the eligibility criteria.

What, according to its supporters, are the scheme's benefits?

■ Defenders of the scheme, which include the three Service chiefs, have maintained that this 'transformational' initiative will make the forces lean and much younger, with the average age of the soldier brought down to about 25 from the present 32 years. It will also ensure the availability of a larger share of budget outlay for capital expenditure for the acquisition of hi-tech equipment and platforms because the outlay for pension payout will drop considerably over time. Military training at a young age would make these men returning to the civilian world more disciplined and employable, advocates of the scheme argue.

They say that the military recruitment procedures in many countries such as the U.S., Russia, the U.K., Israel, France and Germany were extensively studied over the past two years before formulating the scheme for Indian conditions.

Widespread dissent: The Vikramshila Express train set on fire by a mob in protest against the Agnipath scheme in Lakhisarai, Bihar on June 17. • PTI

> Scores of veterans have flayed the scheme as an effort to scrimp and save on revenue expenditure at the expense of the forces' operational efficiency or fighting capabilities

Why are there protests across States?

■ Apprehensions about Agnipath are vast and varied. Scores of veterans have flayed the scheme as an effort to scrimp and save on revenue expenditure at the expense of the forces' operational efficiency or fighting capabilities. Four years is too short a time for a conscript to acquire the skills essential for operating sophisticated systems in the technology-intensive Navy and Air Force. For the Army, which has a regimental system, it is feared to impair the unit's cohesiveness as the soldier on a short-term contract could remain 'risk-averse'.

There are also apprehensions about this path leading to the militarisation of society. Some say that it's unfair to the potential recruit as well, as the absence of a continued employment guarantee at the expiry of four years when he's still in his 20s and without the skillsets or credentials required to make the cut in the civilian/corporate world, could be demoralising. Agnipath cuts at the root of social security and dignity that have lured rural Indian youth to the military fatigue, argue the scheme's detractors.

What is the way forward?

■ Unmindful of the ongoing protests and reservations expressed by a chunk of military veterans – ironically, also including some habitual votaries of the government – the Centre has stated unequivocally its resolve to go ahead with the reform. The Army and the Air Force have announced their recruitment plans and the Navy is expected to follow suit. Each year, about 45,000 soldiers will be enlisted in the three Services under this scheme. It remains to be seen if amendments such as the extension of their initial service period and mandatory re-enlistment of at least 50% of *Agniveers* recommended by some veterans would be considered to finetune the scheme. Right now, the protests are continuing unabated. A clearer picture will emerge by the time the recruitment process gets underway.

Are the unemployment numbers reliable?

What are some of the issues in the Periodic Labour Force Survey data being flagged by economists and experts?

A. M. JIGEESH

The story so far: On June 14, the National Statistical Office (NSO), which functions under the Union Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, released the annual report on the basis of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted during July 2020-June 2021. Though conducted amid the first lockdown, the survey said unemployment rate saw a decrease from 4.8% in 2019-20 to 4.2% in 2020-21, meaning that 4.2% of adults who looked out for jobs could not get any work in rural and urban areas of the country in 2020-21. In rural areas, the rate is 3.3% while in urban areas the unemployment rate was recorded at 6.7%. This report, which also gave details of internal migration, said 11.8 people out of 100 samples migrated to other States during the period of survey.

What is the methodology of the PLFS?

■ The fieldwork of PLFS was suspended twice during the survey in March, 2020 and in April, 2021 due to COVID-19. A rotational panel sampling design has been used in urban areas, which means each selected household in urban areas is visited four times. There was, however, no revisit in rural areas and the samples were drawn randomly in the form of two independent sub-samples. The sample size for the first visit during July 2020-June 2021 in rural and urban areas was 12,800 first-stage sampling units (FSUs) consisting of 7,024 villages and 5,776 urban frame survey blocks. Out of this, 12,562 FSUs (6,930 villages and 5,632 urban blocks) were surveyed for canvassing the PLFS schedule. The number of households surveyed, according to the NSO report, was 1,00,344 (55,389 in rural areas and 44,955 in urban areas) and number of persons surveyed was 4,10,818 (2,36,279 in rural areas and 1,74,539 in urban areas). The PLFS gives estimates of key employment and unemployment indicators like the Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR), Worker Population Ratio (WPR) and Unemployment Rate (UR)

Are there problem areas?

■ Experts have raised questions over the approach and methodology of the PLFS. Chairman of the International Institute of Migration and Development S. Irudaya Rajan said the PLFS or any such survey cannot produce decent data on migration. According to him, only the 2021 Census, which has been delayed, is the correct method to find out the migration status of people. "Migration is the only thing happening in the country. Everyone is moving. To say that there is no change from the previous years is unacceptable," Prof. Rajan says, adding that 60 crore people in the country could be migrants due to changing policy trends favouring urbanisation. Another issue which is being flagged is that the PLFS cannot compare a normal year with an abnormal, pandemic-hit year. Sridhar Kundu, Senior Research Analyst with the Indian School of Business, argues that a second visit to the rural households could have provided a bigger and larger picture of unemployment that was not captured by the PLFS. Dr. Kundu adds that by comparing the lower rate of economic growth during 2020-21 to the PLFS report on unemployment presents a contradiction as according to the Central Statistics Office, India's GDP growth fell over 7.3% during 2020-21.

Why does the data matter?

■ Historically, data collated by the Indian government agencies were well accepted globally. Though, of late, several questions have been posed on the data released by the Centre and various State governments. The country needs reasonable good data for evidence-based policies to address issues such as unemployment and farmers' distress. Governments need data to understand economic and social behaviour of the people. For example, if the survey says unemployment has decreased, there are chances that the government systems become lethargic in addressing the situation. According to researchers, even empirically, the employment and the quality of employment have come down.

What happens next?

■ The data is used basically for planning governmental intervention in various sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, animal husbandry etc. For drafting any policy, data has to be used in a context. If the reality is not reflected in data, public may reject such data. In classical Keynesian terms, any rate of unemployment below 5% is not considered as unemployment. The report raised questions among experts and critics about its efficacy in formulating policies against unemployment and for creating quality employment.

What explains the BCCI bonanza on IPL?

Why has digital streaming rights garnered higher numbers in the auction? How has the league's value improved?

AMOL KARHADKAR

The story so far: The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) had floated a tender for awarding the media rights for IPL's broadcast from 2023 to 2027. The rights – categorised separately for the first time for television and digital platforms – were sold for a combined sum of ₹48,390 crore from the ₹17,110 crore that the previous cycle offered. While Disney Star paid ₹23,575 crore to acquire television rights for the Indian sub-continent, the Viacom 18 group shelled out ₹23,758 crore for digital rights. The rest of the world rights were split between Viacom 18 and Times Internet Ltd. for a combined sum of ₹1,057 crore.

Why have TV and digital rights been split?

■ Sensing that consumption of IPL on digital platforms will increase by huge numbers in future, the BCCI tried to keep ahead of the market trend to bet big on digital. The fact that the digital rights for the Indian subcontinent have fetched more revenues to the BCCI than the same through TV rights underlines that the decision to split the rights, along with that of conducting an e-auction, has turned out to be a masterstroke.

Will IPL then have more games in the next five years?

■ Yes. In fact, the BCCI's clarification to potential bidders about increase in the number of games also resulted in its additional revenue.

For now, the BCCI has announced that the IPL will witness 410 games from 2023 to 2027. Just like the 2022 edition, the next two years (2023 and 2024) will have 74 games. In 2025 and 2026, the IPL will stage 84 games per season, with each team playing at least 16 games, instead of the existing 14. Come 2027, and the total number of games will further increase to 94, with every team set to feature in at least 18 games.

Do broadcasting rights mean more money for teams?

■ The IPL revenue model is based on 50% of the central revenue pool being divided equally among the franchises. The revenue pool primarily includes the franchisee fees (for two teams), the media rights revenue and the central sponsorship revenue. The central revenue pool for the next five years is estimated at ₹60,000 crore, which tallies to ₹12,000 crore annually. It means half of it – approximately ₹6,000 crore – will be divided among the existing 10 franchises. An assured average annual revenue of ₹600 crore for franchise owners will be more than double than that for the 2022 edition, estimated to be approximately ₹275 crore.

Individual players will also get richer but not proportionately. In 2022, the IPL had a cap of ₹90 crore for each franchise to assemble a squad comprising a maximum of 25 players. The cap is set to rise to ₹95 crore in 2023 and ₹100 crore in 2024. The modus operandi of squad development in itself may change thereafter. It means that the players will definitely get richer but not as much as is anticipated.

Will IPL have more teams now?

■ With the BCCI set to get a longer window for the IPL from now on, besides relaxing the schedule a little bit, the scale at which the media rights have been sold has already led to murmurs within the BCCI of the need to increase the number of teams from 10 to 12 in 2027, if not in 2026.

What lies ahead?

■ The introduction of two separate broadcasters for IPL in India for television and digital platforms may result in increased burden on IPL fans. It will be interesting to see how the BCCI uses the additional revenue. The need of the hour is to strengthen the feeder-line for men's cricket, especially domestic cricketers, age-group cricketers, match officials and scores of State association foot-soldiers. Besides, the BCCI needs to ensure that there is a robust financial model for the women's game across levels.

The BCCI's announcement of increasing pension for those who retired before 2004 is certainly welcome. But experts say that's far from being enough.

WIKILEAKS

The enemy of the deep state

WikiLeaks' fortunes have been inextricably tied with the travails of its co-founder Julian Assange

SRINIVASAN RAMANI

The slow but sure process of extraditing Julian Assange, co-founder of the whistleblowing website WikiLeaks from the U.K. to the U.S. took a firm step on Friday when the British Home Secretary, Priti Patel, gave the go-ahead to the move. WikiLeaks promptly released a statement promising another legal battle to appeal the decision.

Mr. Assange is wanted in the U.S. for criminal charges, including breaking the Espionage Act for WikiLeaks' actions of leaking thousands of secret U.S. files in 2010. He could face punishment ranging up to 175 years in prison for violations of the Espionage Act. On the same day, the Assange Defense Committee, a U.S.-based coalition of media rights and human rights groups, released a statement through its co-chairs, which include the renowned linguist and public intellectual Noam Chomsky and former U.S. military analyst and whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg, that said the decision "was a sad day for western democracy". It added: "U.S. government argues that its venerated Constitution does not protect journalism the government dislikes and that publishing truthful information in public interest is a subversive, criminal act. This argument is a threat not only to journalism, but to democracy itself."

These were strong words in favour of a man who has been held in the U.K.'s Belmarsh prison ever since the Ecuador Embassy revoked his asylum and citizenship after he stayed for seven years on its premises in London. Mr. Assange initially underwent imprisonment for bail violations during his stay in the Ecuador Embassy and got a reprieve from a U.K district judge, Vanessa Baraitser, in January 2021, when she ruled that he could not be extradited to the U.S. because of concerns about his mental health and the possibility of suicide in a U.S prison with strict incarceration conditions.

U.S. prosecutors later filed an appeal, and the British High Court, this time in December 2021, ruled in favour of the U.S. following the Joe Biden administration's assurances on the terms of Mr. Assange's possible incarceration – that it would not hold him at the highest security prison facility (ADX Florence in Colorado, which houses terrorists, drug traffickers, and high-profile criminals) and that if he were convicted, he could serve his sentence in his native Australia if he requested it. Mr. Assange moved the British Supreme Court against the verdict, but on March 14, the Court refused permission to appeal.

Mr. Assange's travails have mirrored those of the WikiLeaks organisation itself. In February 2022, on WikiLeaks' website, the submission system for files (by whistleblowers, 'hacktivists', etc.) and its email server went completely offline, months after the organisation's secure chat services had stopped working in October 2021. This was no surprise.

The organisation has been inevitably linked to its co-founder, who still remains a director. Ever since his incarceration, the release of whistleblower documents have only been few and far between and much less in consequence compared to what the organisation managed to achieve between 2010 and 2019.

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH

In Focus

- WikiLeaks' journey began in 2006 when the website was first established and its domain name registered by Julian Assange
- In 2010, the website released a video that showed U.S. military helicopters firing indiscriminately at a crowd in Iraq, killing civilians and two Reuters reporters
- In 2016, the release of Hillary Clinton's aide John Podesta's emails drew flak from activists, who likened these leaks to an effort to intervene in the 2016 elections

Origins and impact

WikiLeaks' journey began in 2006 when the website was first established and its domain name registered by Mr. Assange. While initially the website began as a disclosure portal on the lines of the Wikipedia model, with anonymous submissions being put up and edited by volunteers, it soon became a repository of anonymously sourced material. News and classified information could be uploaded on it using the anonymity software Tor, which protects the uploader's identity from being eavesdropped on any network and even by WikiLeaks itself.

Internal dissension and wrangling between WikiLeaks employees had resulted in problems with the submission system, which resulted in its suspension in 2010, but WikiLeaks relaunched the site in 2015.

One of the earliest revelations by Wikileaks was on how the U.S. government had been deploying practices at the Guantanamo Bay facility holding terror suspects, that were in violation of the Geneva Convention protocols.

Some of the most consequential leaks during the period when the site's anonymised submission system still remained active included the millions of classified files from the U.S. Defence Department on the Iraq and the Afghan invasions, besides lakhs of State Department communiques – both were released by former U.S. soldier Chelsea (then Bradley) Manning. These leaks began with a 39-minute video released on April 5, 2010 that showed gun-sight footage of two U.S. AH-64 Apache helicopters in action during the Iraqi insurgency against the U.S. occupation in 2007. The video showed the helicopter crew firing indiscriminately and killing civilians and two Reuters war correspondents. For nearly three years, Reuters had sought access to this video via the U.S. Freedom of Information Act, but had failed.

WikiLeaks promptly released the war logs, which were published by a host of media organisations and exposed human rights abuses by occupation forces, besides the increased fatality counts in Iraq. The war logs' release was followed by the publication of several news stories, including by *The Hindu*, based on thousands of leaked diplomatic cables that were also released by Ms. Manning, leading to significant public exposure of the ways, lifestyles and attitudes of the elite in various countries.

The WikiLeaks model – using cryptographic tools to protect sources and allowing for anonymous "leaks" of sensitive information (that could also be in public interest) to be published – suddenly brought forth a new model of extensive investigative journalism into areas that were relatively shielded from the public eye, such as the functioning of the deep state in democratic societies and the operation of power agencies in autocracies.

WikiLeaks brought forth a new model of investigative journalism into areas that were relatively shielded from the public eye, such as the functioning of the deep state

While initially the cables were released to five newspapers that undertook the exercise of redacting sensitive information before reporting on them and published them over a year from late 2010 to 2011, the leak of the encryption key of the full cache of files (of what was then termed "Cablegate"), resulted in the release of unredacted material, an action that was condemned by many media outlets.

The lack of an anonymised submission system between 2010 and 2015 did not deter it from publishing other files that were obtained from other hackers such as the Stratfor email leaks. Later, WikiLeaks also published then presidential candidate (and former Secretary of State) Hillary Clinton's aide John Podesta's emails before the 2016 presidential elections. This action invited severe critique of WikiLeaks from activists and media personnel, who likened these leaks to an effort to intervene in the 2016 elections with Mr. Assange having been quoted as saying he wanted to "harm" Hillary Clinton's chances of winning the presidency and accusing WikiLeaks of obtaining this information from Russian intelligence agency hackers, something Wikileaks denied.

Later, it emerged that someone from WikiLeaks had conversed with Clinton's presidential opponent, Donald Trump's son, Donald Trump Jr., seeking to promote the leaks and even asking for favours for Mr. Assange in Twitter DM conversations.

Probe in the U.S.

Wikileaks' releases, meanwhile, resulted in reprisals from the U.S. government. The Barack Obama administration began investigation of the Manning leaks, and Ms. Manning was convicted by court martial in July 2013 for violating the Espionage Act and underwent rigorous imprisonment before her sentence was commuted in January 2017 by the President. However, the administration concluded that it would not pursue criminal charges against Mr. Assange and WikiLeaks.

The U.S. Justice Department under former President Donald Trump, however, charged Mr. Assange with collaborating in a conspiracy with Ms. Manning to crack a password on a Defense Department network to publish classified documents and communications on WikiLeaks in a sealed indictment in April 2017. These charges were unsealed in 2019.

Later, the Trump administration further charged Mr. Assange with violating the Espionage Act of 1917 – he was indicted on 17 new charges related to the Act at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. In June 2020, the charges were further expanded for conspiracy with hacker groups. The Biden administration has made no attempt to reverse these charges.

How the legal case against Mr. Assange will play out will determine the future of investigative journalism of the kind that WikiLeaks represents and will also serve as a litmus test for free expression laws that allow for unhindered journalism in countries like the U.S.. While the organisation is now a shell of what it was a decade ago, its ability to harness the act of whistleblowing to shine a light on the inner workings of those in power transformed investigative journalism, even as its decisions to intervene in the U.S. polity complicated its legacy.

BLACK SEA

Russia's gateway to global waters

Moscow is trying to squeeze Ukraine's access to the strategic waters in its south

STANLY JOHNY

The Treaty of Küçük Kaynarca, signed on July 21, 1774 by the Russian and Ottoman Empires after the 1768-74 war between the two powers was one of the most consequential treaties for the global balance of power in the 18th century – it marked the beginning of the decline of the Ottoman Empire and the arrival of the Russians, under Catherine the Great, as a major power in the Black Sea region. As part of the treaty, Russia got access to the Black Sea through the Kerch and Azov seaports. More important, Russia gained official status as the protector of the Orthodox Christians of the Ottoman Empire, a clear signal of the waning influence of the High Porte, the Ottoman central administration, within imperial territories.

This clause also left the Crimean Khanate, which had declared independence from the Ottomans, dependent on the Russians. In 1783, nine years after the treaty was signed, Prince Grigory Potemkin, a Grand Admiral in the imperial Russian army and a favourite of Empress Catherine, annexed the Crimean Peninsula in the name of protecting its Christians amidst violent clashes between Christians and Crimean Tatars. The annexation gave Russia seamless access to the Black Sea's warm waters, helping its rise as a naval power.

One may find parallels between the 18th century annexation of Crimea by Empress Catherine and the 2014 annexation of the same region by President Vladimir Putin. If Catherine's annexation anchored Russia as a Black Sea power, Mr. Putin's move allowed Russia to retain Sevastopol, which hosts its Black Sea fleet, and turn Crimea into a platform for force projection.

Geo-economic reasons

After the invasion of Ukraine began on February 24, Russia further tightened its hold over the Black Sea. Russia has taken the entire Sea of Azov coast and more port cities in the south and south-east, including Mariupol, Berdyansk and Kherson.

The Black Sea is critical for Russia for geo-economic reasons. Russia's northern ports are in the Arctic Ocean, which restricts its outreach to the world. Its gateway to the global waters is the Black Sea, which opens into the Mediterranean Sea through the Turkey-controlled Bosphorus and Dardanelles Straits.

Currently, Russia's only naval base outside the former Soviet territories is based in Syria's Tartus in the Mediterranean Sea. While Russia sees the Mediterranean as NATO-dominated waters, it has sought to enhance its presence in the region in recent years. So, from a geopolitical point of view, it's imperative for Moscow to retain its hold over the Black Sea to remain an influential naval power. The Black Sea is also a vital economic artery for Russia to export its hydrocarbons and grains to Turkey and Asian markets.

During the Soviet period, Russia had dominated the Black Sea, which was then dubbed by many the 'Soviet Lake'. Ukraine and Georgia were Soviet republics. Bulgaria and Romania, two other Black Sea basin states, were part of the Soviet-led Eastern bloc. The only country that was out of the Soviet sphere in the Black Sea region during the Cold War was Turkey, a NATO member. Despite Turkey's control over Bosphorus and Dardanelles Straits, the 1936 Montreux Convention ensures that Russia and other Black Sea countries get access to the straits so that they can seamlessly move both commercial and military vessels in and out of the waters. (The Convention bans non-Black Sea countries' aircraft carriers and submarines from entering the waters.)

But the balance of power in the Black Sea would shift in favour of NATO after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Bulgaria and Romania became NATO members in 2004. Ukraine and Georgia were offered membership in 2008. If they had also joined NATO, Russia would have faced an arc of NATO coast in its gateway to the global waters. But in 2008, Russia made a military intervention in Georgia, practically ending the country's NATO dream. And in 2014, by annexing Crimea, Russia did not only derail Ukraine's NATO plans, but also reasserted its hold over its southern waters. Now, with more territories under its control as the invasion grinds on, Russia is seeking to rewrite the balance of power in the Black Sea to its favour through force.

ABDUL REHMAN MAKKI

LeT's terror financier

China placed a hold on India's bid to name the LeT leader a global terrorist

KALLOL BHATTACHERJEE

In January 2018, a special cell of the Delhi Police arrested Bilal Ahmed Kawa at the Delhi airport. Kawa was accused of being part of the December 22, 2000 attack on the Red Fort in Delhi. The pre-dawn attack, a month ahead of the Republic Day celebration, shook the security infrastructure in the country as it proved that the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) had acquired the ability to launch attacks right in the heart of India. Kawa played just a small part of that attack. According to Indian law enforcement agencies, the operation was firmed up by the top leadership of the LeT, which included Abdul Rehman Makki, the deputy Amir and head of political affairs of the terrorist outfit and its parent organisation, Jamat ud Dawa (JuD).

ILLUSTRATION: SREEJITH R KUMAR

Makki, a long-time aide of LeT Amir Hafiz Saeed, has been of great operational significance for the organisation. Apart from being a member of the top family of the JuD/LeT (he is Saeed's brother-in-law), Makki has served as the member of the Shura and a member of the JuD's central and proselytising teams. His main skill lies in raising funds for the LeT's operations.

The LeT first appeared in the Kashmir Valley in the early 1990s. In the initial decade, its focus was limited to Jammu and Kashmir. The Red Fort attack, however, changed the threat perception that the LeT posed. Ever since, India has blamed several attacks, both inside Kashmir and in the rest of the country, on Makki.

The list includes the 26/11 Mumbai attacks; the attack on the Rampur CRPF Camp on January 1, 2008; the Karan Nagar attack on February 12-13, 2018; the Khanpora attack on May 30, 2018 in Baramulla; the Srinagar attack on June 14, 2018; and the Gurez attack on August 7, 2018.

India accuses Makki of being involved in raising funds and radicalising and recruiting young men to attack India, particularly Jammu & Kashmir. The long list of the anti-India attacks prompted India and the U.S. to declare him as a terrorist.

While the heat has been increased on Hafiz Saeed, who is a UN-proscribed terrorist, Makki is not on the global list of terrorists. India and the U.S. jointly proposed, on June 1, to list Makki under the UN Security Council's Al-Qaeda and ISIL Sanctions Committee, also known as the UNSC 1267 Committee.

Sources disclosed that the proposal to list Makki under the UN Security Council sanctions regime was circulated to all members of the Council's 1267 Committee under a "no-objection procedure" till June 16. At the last moment, China placed a "technical hold" on the proposal that nixed the India-U.S. plan to list Makki as a global terrorist. Designating Makki as a global terrorist would have frozen all his assets that could be targeted more effectively by the law enforcement authorities of the most powerful countries in the UN.

Names galore

According to the U.S. Rewards for Justice programme, Makki is known by multiple names – Hafiz Abdul Rehman Makki; Hafaz Abdul Rahman Maki; Abdulrahman Makki; Hafiz Abdul Rehman and carries a price of $2 million. The American programme says Makki has played a role in the past in raising funds for terror strikes by the LeT.

Makki has been in the crosshairs of the U.S. authorities for a long time. On November 4, 2010, the U.S. Department of Treasury listed him as a 'Specially Designated Global Terrorist' under Executive order 13224. The order curtailed Makki's ability to access American resources.

Though global action against Hafiz Saeed was achieved with comparative ease, the lack of consensus among the permanent members of the UNSC prevented Makki's inclusion in the 1267 list. India has blamed China and said that its lack of support in listing Makki shows its "double standards on combating terrorism".

In 2020, an anti-terrorism court in Pakistan indicted Makki for terror financing and sent him to jail. But another court suspended the sentence and asked him to pay ₹50,000 instead. Hafiz Saeed was listed a global terrorist under the 1267 list soon after the 26/11 attacks in Mumbai. But Makki who is effectively the leader of the LeT – as Saeed serves a 32-year jail term – is yet to feel the weight of the international order.

5G deployment to start in Aug.-Sept.: Vaishnaw

Telecom Minister expects roll-out to commence in 20-25 cities, towns by year end; sees India setting rate benchmarks

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

Telecom minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Saturday said 5G deployment would commence in 20-25 cities and towns by the year end, and indicated that India, with its current data prices significantly lower than the global average, would continue to set rate benchmarks as new services were rolled out.

The 5G deployment would start from August-September, Mr. Vaishnaw said.

The minister said India was developing 4G and 5G stacks, and was set to bolster its position as a trusted source for the world, in digital networks.

To address the issue of unsolicited calls, an "important" regulation was in the works, which would enable KYC-identity name of a caller to be displayed, when someone calls, the minister said, speaking at the 'TV9 What India Thinks Today Global Summit'.

On 5G services, he said: "I can say with confidence that 5G deployment will start in at least 20-25 cities and towns by year end."

Asked about the pricing for 5G services, Mr. Vaishnaw observed that even today data rates in India were at about $2, against the global average of $25.

"We are already the lowest in the world, at least by a factor of 10X... we are cheaper than the world, that same trend will be in other areas too," he said. As India prepares to usher in 5G services, it has also developed 4G and 5G technology stacks.

Initiating call: The Centre will auction ₹4.3 lakh crore of airwaves for offering 5G services. •C. VENKATACHALAPATHY

'Technology lead in 6G'

Outlining India's resolve to match global strides in 4G and 5G, and to take the technology lead in 6G, the Minister said the world had taken note of the country's progress, and shown serious interest in the indigenous technologies being developed.

"The telecom network supporting mobile phones has to be a trusted network. India's name is on the top of the list of trusted network providers. When India develops a technology, entire world is interested in it," he asserted.

5G services are expected to usher in high speeds – about 10 times faster than 4G – and spawn new-age offerings and business models.

The government will auction about ₹4.3 lakh crore worth of airwaves capable of offering fifth-generation or 5G telecom services, including ultra-high-speed Internet, and has also given its nod for setting up of captive 5G networks by tech firms.

As much as 72 GHz of spectrum will be put on the block during the 5G auction, set to commence on July 26.

On the issue of unsolicited calls, Mr. Vaishnaw said a new regulation in the offing would enable KYC name (as given in the mobile SIM application) to be displayed, when someone makes a call. The consultation process on this was currently underway.

"Once industry stakeholder consultation is completed, this will be implemented all over the country," the Minister said.

To a question on the slow download speeds experienced by customers, the minister pointed out that India's average data consumption at 18 GB per month, exceeds the global average of 11 GB per month.

"India's data consumption is more than what is seen in highly-developed nations. More investments are needed in infrastructure. Massive investments in infrastructure are important in the backdrop of data rates, calls drops, call quality," he said.

The telecom sector reforms announced in September had brought stability to the industry, the Minister asserted.

Govt. tags IT assets of ICICI Bank 'critical' infra

HDFC Bank, NPCI also get similar tags

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI

The government has declared the IT resources of ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank and UPI managing entity NPCI as 'critical information infrastructure,' implying any harm to them can have an impact on national security and any unauthorised person accessing these resources may be jailed for up to 10 years, according to an official notification.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), in the notification dated June 16, declared the IT resources of ICICI Bank as critical infrastructure under Section 70 of the IT Act, 2000.

"The central government hereby declares the computer resources relating to the Core Banking Solution, Real Time Gross Settlement and National Electronic Fund Transfer comprising Structured Financial Messaging Server, being critical information infrastructure of the ICICI Bank, and the computer resources of its associated dependencies to be protected systems for the purpose of the said Act," the government said.

Meity also declared IT resources of HDFC bank and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) as critical infrastructure.

India's Russian coal buying spikes on rebates

May 27-June 15 purchases surge sixfold

REUTERS
NEW DELHI

India's purchases of Russian coal have spiked in recent weeks despite global sanctions, as traders offer discounts of up to 30%, according to two trade sources and data reviewed by Reuters.

Russia, facing severe Western sanctions over its invasion of Ukraine, warned the European Union in April against sweeping sanctions on coal, saying they would backfire as the fuel would be redirected to other markets.

Yet as European importers shun trade with Moscow, Indian buyers are ordering huge quantities of Russian coal despite high freight costs.

India's purchases of coal and related products jumped more than sixfold in the 20 days through Wednesday from the year-earlier period to $331.17 million, according to unpublished Indian government data.

"The Russian traders have been liberal with payment routes and are accepting payments in Indian rupee and UAE dirham," one source said.

Bitcoin falls to 18-month low on risk exodus

REUTERS

Bitcoin fell below $20,000 to its lowest level in 18 months, extending its slide as investors pull back from riskier assets amid rising interest rates.

The biggest cryptocurrency was down 7.1% to $18,993 at 0906 GMT, having earlier touched $18,732, its lowest since December 2020. It is down about 59% this year, while rival cryptocurrency ether is down 73%.

The digital currency sector has been pummelled this week after cryptocurrency lending firm Celsius froze withdrawals and transfers between accounts.

Jindal Lifestyle opens stainless steel parts unit

Firm eyes opportunities in rail wagons

M. SOUNDARIYA PREETHA
COIMBATORE

The plant makes stainless steel components for train coaches

Jindal Lifestyle, an integrated stainless steel solutions provider, has commissioned an additional plant in Chennai to cater mainly to Vande Bharat trains.

The firm has facilities in Chennai, Pathredi in Rajasthan and Rohad in Haryana with a total capacity of 1,500 tonnes a month, CEO Rajesh Mohata said.

The products manufactured include industrial stainless steel tanks, homeware, kitchenware, bus shelters, components for Metrorail and Railways, etc.

The new plant in Chennai is operating at 40% capacity now and additional machinery would be installed to raise capacity utilisation to 80% from next month.

"The investment in the additional plant is only in machinery as the shed has been taken on rent," he said.

"The plant makes stainless steel components for coaches," Mr. Mohata said

"We are also working on how to make stainless steel railway wagons. We see good opportunities in wagons," he added.

With huge opportunities in automobile and EV sectors, the company is looking at further expansion in Tamil Nadu, he said.

We are seeing a long, strong cycle of growth: DICV MD

Company has healthy export pipeline for 3-4 months: Arya

LALATENDU MISHRA
MUMBAI

Satyakam Arya

Daimler India Commercial Vehicles Pvt. Ltd., which makes and supplies the Bharat Benz range of heavy and medium commercial vehicles (CVs) in India, is seeing strong demand recovery for CVs as the effect of the pandemic wanes, MD and CEO Satyakam Arya said.

"Since 2020, the industry has again started to grow," Mr. Arya said in an interview. "It finished roughly with 2,00,000 units in 2021. This year, we are expecting the market to grow beyond 3,40,000 units.

"We are [standing] in the front of a major growth cycle, which is happening now," he said. "I believe, with the GDP growth India had seen last year, and how we are growing this year, we are in front of a long and strong cycle of growth for this industry," he added.

The subsidiary of Daimler Truck AG, which has invested almost ₹10,000 crore in India, achieved operational break-even for its truck business in 2018. "And today, we are financially quite strong," he said.

'Scalable capacity'

DICV's plant in Chennai has annual capacity to make 36,000 trucks and the capacity can be scaled up to 72,000 with some minor investments, Mr. Arya said.

"2022 is shaping out quite well. We are growing, a bit better than what the market is growing. If you look at the exports, we have got a very healthy pipeline for the next three-four months," he said.

SPORT

LIVE TELECAST

Badminton: Indonesia Open: Sports 18-1 & Voot Select, 10.30 a.m.
Sri Lanka vs Australia: 3rd ODI, Sony Six (SD & HD) & Sony LIV, 2.30 p.m.
Netherlands vs England: 2nd ODI, FanCode, 2.30 p.m.
FIH Pro League: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 3 p.m., 5.30 p.m. & 8 p.m.
India vs South Africa: 5th T20I, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7 p.m.
West Indies vs Bangladesh: 1st Test, day 4, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.
F1: Canadian GP: SS Select 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 11.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Leclerc receives 10-place penalty

MONTREAL

Charles Leclerc received a 10-place grid penalty because Ferrari changed his engine ahead of the Canadian GP. An engine failure knocked Leclerc out of last week's Azerbaijan GP while leading and Ferrari has since deemed the engine "beyond repair." AP

India shocks Iran in Asian U-16 basketball

DOHA

India defeated top-ranked Iran 83-78 after extra-time in the Classification Game (5-8) of FIBA under-16 Asian Championship on Saturday. India will take on the winner of the Philippines-Korea match in the battle for the fifth/sixth spot.

The result:
India 83 (Harsh Dagar 25, Kushal Singh 19, Lokendra Singh 15) bt Iran 78 (Mohammad Amini 27).

Five share lead

KALABURAGI

Vivaan Sachdev, Nishanth D'Souza, K.M. Prajwal, Abhay Hippargi and K. Thejas shared the lead with 4.5 points each in the Open category at the end of the second day of the Karnataka State under-19 chess championship being held in Kalaburagi. In the girls' category, Divya and Prasiddhi Bhat are joint-top on 4.5 points each.

Suhana battles past Srijitha

The other seeds from both categories ease past qualifiers

TABLE TENNIS

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
ALAPPUZHA

Top-seeded Suhana Saini (Haryana) advanced to the second round in the youth girls' under-19 section after warding off a spirited challenge from Srijitha Shaw (Bengal) 11-8, 11-7, 11-4 in the 83rd National junior and youth table tennis championships at the YMCA TT Arena here on Saturday.

After packing off Sampriti Roy 11-8, 11-3, 11-4 in less than 20 minutes in the first round in the under-17 category, Suhana was not at her best when she took on Srijitha in the first round in the under-19 category.

Suhana made quite a few errors and allowed her opponent to level the scores in all the three sets. However, the Haryana girl found her nick at the right time to pull ahead to register a straight sets win. Srijitha managed to level the scores at eight in the first set but Suhana reeled off four straight points to win the first set. In the second set, the Bengal girl again caught up with Suhana at seven but failed to stop the top seed from winning it.

Suhana struck form after an indifferent start in the third set and won seven consecutive points to win the match.

There was hardly any surprise in the opening round in both categories as the seeds easily packed off qualifiers to warm up for tougher grind.

Hard-fought win: Suhana Saini was made to sweat by Srijitha. •FILE PHOTO

The results (first round):
Under-17: Suhana Saini (Har) bt Sampriti Roy (Ben) 11-8, 11-3, 11-4; Tanisha Kotecha (Mah) bt Maulisha Thanvi (Raj 11-4, 11-3, 11-3; Lakshita Narang (Del) bt Aarti Chaudhary (UP) 11-8, 11-7, 11-9; Jennifer Varghese (Mah) bt Kavya Yadav (Har) 11-7, 11-8, 11-2.

Pritha Vartikar (Mah) bt Ekantika Sathish (TNTTA) 11-5, 10-12, 11-3, 11-0; Risha Mirchandani (Mah) bt Preeti Rajkumara (TTTA) 11-9, 11-6, 8-11, 13-11; Riddhima Kapoor (Del) bt Arya Songadkar (Mah) 11-6, 4-11, 7-11, 11-6, 11-8; Kavyashree Baskara (TTTA) bt Smrithi Krishna (Ker) 11-7, 11-4, 11-6.

Under-19: Suhana Saini (Har) bt Srijitha Shaw (Ben) 11-8, 11-7, 11-4; Tisha Kohli (Del) bt Thanuja (TTTA) 11-8, 11-8, 11-9; Prita Vartikar (Mah) bt Anushka Acharya (Raj) 11-2, 11-2, 11-0; Shriya Anand (TTTA) bt Anushka Basak (Ben) 11-5, 11-6, 11-5.

Lakshita Narang (Del) bt Urvi Surlakar (Goa) 11-5, 11-4, 11-5; Swapnali Narale (Mah) bt Ananya Chande (Mah) 11-7, 9-11, 11-4, 11-6; Risha Mirchandani (Mah) bt K. Dishha (UP) 11-5, 11-5, 11-3.

King's Ransom primed for an encore

BENGALURU: King's Ransom, who is in fine nick, may score an encore in the Fillies Championship Stakes (1,600m), the chief event of the races to be held here on Sunday (June 19). There will be no false rails.

1 RAMKIRPAL PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 2-00: 1. Bramastram (11) S. Shareef 61.5, 2. Sky Princess (3) Ashhad A 60, 3. Chandra Kanta (2) B. Nayak 59, 4. Don's Den (8) G. Vivek 58, 5. Areca Angel (10) Rajesh K 57.5, 6. Ultimate Choice (1) Vishal B 57.5, 7. Akasi (6) Vivek 57, 8. Altair (4) Ajeet K 56.5, 9. Daring Sweetheart (5) S. Mubarak 56.5, 10. Activated (9) P. Surya 56 and 11. Star Citizen (7) A. Fazal 55.5.
1. DON'S DEN 2. SKY PRINCESS, 3. BRAMASTRAM

2 STAR CONTENDER PLATE (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 2-30: 1. Ashwa Magadheera (6) Suraj 60, 2. Nikolina (4) Akshay K 59, 3. Aferpi (5) Rajesh K 58.5, 4. Spectacular (2) Sandesh 58.5, 5. Augusto (9) L.A. Rozario 57, 6. Fictioneer (8) Vishal B 57, 7. Singhsaab (3) B. Nayak 56.5, 8. Kodava Streak (12) Mudassar 55.5, 9. Sunway Lagoon (10) T.S. Jodha 55.5, 10. Rorito (1) Tousif K 55, 11. Electric Blue (7) Richard Oliver 54 and 12. Sunshine Prince (11) Gaurav S 53.
1. NIKOLINA, 2. ASHWA MAGADHEERA, 3. SPECTACULAR

3 RARE GEM PLATE (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3-00: 1. Ardakan (8) Ranjeet S 56, 2. Breeze Bluster (14) S. Saqlain 56, 3. Gimme (13) N.S. Parmar 56, 4. Maybach (1) Mark 56, 5. Monteverdi (4) Hindu S 56, 6. Pinnacle Point (12) K. Nazil 56, 7. Romero (7) L.A. Rozario 56, 8. The Sensation (11) Ashhad A 56, 9. Tycoonist (5) Suraj 56, 10. Kiefer (10) C.S. Jodha 54.5, 11. Kulsum (3) Likith 54.5, 12. Oasis Class (9) A. Prakash 54.5, 13. Prime Abbess (6) Md. Akram 54.5 and 14. Secret Lady (2) S. Shareef 54.5.
1. TYCOONIST, 2. GIMME, 3. KIEFER

4 STEWARDS CUP (1,200m), rated 60 & above, 3-30: 1. Psychic Warrior (4) J.H. Arul 60, 2. Hukum (2) Md. Aliyar 56.5, 3. Colonel Harty (3) Rajesh K 55, 4. Obsidian (6) Dhanu S 54, 5. Cavallini (1) Akshay K 52 and 6. Luck Chance (5) Sandesh 51.5.
1. OBSIDIAN, 2. LUCKY CHANCE

5 FILLIES CHAMPIONSHIP STAKES (1,600m), 3-y-o fillies, (Terms), 4-00: 1. Crown Consort (2) Suraj 56, 2. Dangerous (3) C.S. Jodha 56, 3. Eternal Princess (12) Yash 56, 4. Faith (9) Trevor 56, 5. King's Ransom (5) P.S. Chouhan 56, 6. Philosophy (7) Sandesh 56, 7. Place Vendome (11) P.P. Dhebe 56, 8. Queen Spirit (8) Zervan 56, 9. Shabelle (13) Akshay K 56, 10. Star Comet (4) A. Imran 56, 11. Stellar Gold (1) Bhawani S 56, 12. Tough Cookie (10) Anjar 56 and 13. Triple Wish (6) N.S. Parmar 56.
1. KING'S RANSOM, 2. CROWN CONSORT, 3. SHABELLE

6 K.S. PRASAD MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,400m), rated 40 to 65, 4-35: 1. Ruling Goddess (2) Shreyas S 60, 2. Imperial Blue (10) Akshay K 59.5, 3. Peluche (9) T.S. Jodha 59.5, 4. Mystic Eye (8) P.P. Dhebe 56.5, 5. Peyo (12) Yash 56.5, 6. Regal Command (7) Bhawani S 56, 7. Promise Kept (11) Trevor 55.5, 8. Douglas (3) Gaurav S 55, 9. The Inheritor (4) J.H. Arul 54.5, 10. Ayr (5) Kiran N 53.5, 11. Success (13) Hindu S 52.5, 12. Sonata (1) Likith 52 and 13. Bangor On Dee (6) G. Vivek 51.
1. IMPERIAL BLUE, 2. PEYO, 3. PROMISE KEPT

7 BERGAMO PLATE (1,600m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 5-10: 1. Green Channel (4) J.H. Arul 61.5, 2. Jack Ryan (7) Ashhad A 60.5, 3. Siege Perilous (8) Akshay K 58.5, 4. Four Wheel Drive (9) P.S. Chouhan 55.5, 5. Starry Wind (5) P.P. Dhebe 55.5, 6. Multistarrer (10) Sandesh 55, 7. Pink Jasmine (2) Trevor 54.5, 8. Southern Dynasty (6) C.S. Jodha 53, 9. Winmylove (1) Gaurav S 53 and 10. Capable (3) G. Vivek 52.5.
1. SIEGE PERILOUS, 2. MULTISTARRER, 3. PINK JASMINE

8 RAMKIRPAL PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-45: 1. Artesian (11) Nikhil N 62.5, 2. First Royalist (9) A. Prakash 62.5, 3. Matera (3) Richard Oliver 62.5, 4. Amazing Luck (10) B. Nayak 61.5, 5. High Opinion (5) P.P. Dhebe 61.5, 6. Mega Success (8) Vivek 61, 7. Cinco De Mayo (1) Mark 60, 8. Dreams Ahead (2) S. Mubarak 59.5, 9. Gold Gray (6) Siddaraju 59, 10. Handsome Rocky (4) Rajesh K 58 and 11. Lightning Charlie (7) P. Surya 57.5.
1. MATERA, 2. ARTESIAN, 3. GOLD GRAY

Day's best: **IMPERIAL BLUE**
Double: **NIKOLINA – SIEGE PERILOUS**
Jkt: 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8; Tr (i): 3, 4 and 5; (ii): 6, 7 and 8.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Rebels FC reigns

Rebels FC (30 pts), won the BDFA A-division football league championship. Friends United FC (27) emerged the runner-up and both teams have been promoted to the 2022-23 Super Division.

The result (final round): RS Sports FC 1 (Sandeep Krishnan 6) drew with Vehicles FC 1 (D. Nithish 1).

Santhosh nets winner

Santhosh's 60th-minute winner gave Mandya 2-1 win over Belagavi in the KSFA inter-district football tournament.

The result: Mandya DFA 2 (Hemadeep 35+1, Santhosh 60) bt Belagavi DFA 1 (Pradyum Bokade 50).

Bowring Institute meets KSBA-B in final

Bowring Institute defeated Indian Gymkhana Club 692-558 in the semifinals of the Chandra Bhatia inter-club snooker championship. In the final, it will meet KSBA-B which beat Century Club-A 627-603 in the other last-four clash.

Parush shines

Parush starred with 21 points as Mysore BC edged BCYA 37-35 in the State C-division basketball league championship, here on Saturday. Ashwath (15) top scored for BCYA.

Rajender fails dope test, suspended for four years

STAN RAYAN
KOCHI

Former javelin throw National record holder Rajender Singh has tested positive for a banned substance in an out-of-competition test conducted in April last year.

The Athletics Integrity Unit reveals in its new list that the test was taken on April 30 last year and that the javelin thrower has now been suspended for four years till July 22, 2025.

Michigan Melody wins feature event

BENGALURU: Azhar Ali-trained Michigan Melody (Arshad up) won the D. Kumar Siddanna Memorial Trophy, the main event of the races held here on Saturday (June 18). The winner is owned by Mr. Satish G Kundapur.

1. TREASURE GIRL PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over: **UNYIELDING** (Ajinkya) 1, Three Aces (Darshan) 2, Tifanny (Sandesh) 3 and Ansaldo (Akshay K) 4. 3/4, 2-1/4 and 3. 1m, 16.34s. ₹174 (w), 35, 17 and 13 (p), SHP: 50, THP: 60, FP: 1,843, Q: 959, Trinella: 3,028 and 1,483, Exacta: 7,519 and 2,762. Favourite: Ansaldo. Owners: Mr. Darius R. Byramji, Mr. K. Mahaveer Chand & Mr. Ravindran T.C. Trainer: Darius.

2. ROYAL CHALLENGE PLATE (1,400m), rated 00 to 25: **KLOCKNER** (Salman K) 1, Limited Edition (G. Vivek) 2, Smile Around (Siddaraju) 3 and Elite Agent (Angad) 4. 1-1/4, 3/4 and 7-1/2. 1m, 31.88s. ₹75 (w), 18, 12 and 20 (p), SHP: 31, THP: 43, FP: 159, Q: 53, Trinella: 1,572 and 943, Exacta: 6,698 and 2,511. Favourite: Limited Edition. Owners: Mr. Rajan Aggarwal & Mr. Gautam Aggarwal. Trainer: Pradeep Annaiah.

3. DUPONT PLATE (1,600m), rated 00 to 25: **NOBLE RULER** (A. Imran) 1, Osibisa (Ajeet K) 2, Lightning Flame (Dashrath S) 3 and Chiraag (B. Nayak) 4. 1-3/4, 2-3/4 and 1-3/4. 1m, 45.43s. ₹77 (w), 16, 53 and 14 (p), SHP: 251, THP: 39, FP: 3,190, Q: 1,577, Trinella: 8,233 and 2,352, Exacta: 21,775 and 9,332. Favourite: Turkoman. Owner: Mr. M.A.M. Ramaswamy Chettiar Of Chettinad Charitable Trust. Trainer: S. Ganapathy.

4. SIR CECIL CUP (1,400m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms): **KONABOS** (Suraj) 1, Aldgate (Trevor) 2, Arrowette (Akshay K) 3 and Ripple N Storm (Ajinkya) 4. Not run: Adjustment and Victoria Punch. 3-1/2, 3-1/2 and 1-1/4. 1m, 30.14s. ₹55 (w), 25 and 14 (p), SHP: 30, THP: 31, FP: 137, Q: 46, Trinella: 267 and 97, Exacta: 1,431 and 1,033. Favourite: Aldgate. Owner: Mr. Gautam Maini. Trainer: Prasanna Kumar.

5. D. KUMAR SIDDANNA MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 5-y-o & over: **MICHIGAN MELODY** (Arshad) 1, General Patton (Akshay K) 2, Golden Vision (Siddaraju) 3 and Secretsuperstar (T.S. Jodha) 4. Not run: Super Gladiator. 3-1/4, Nk and 3/4. 1m, 16.11s. ₹27 (w), 14, 15 and 23 (p), SHP: 38, THP: 54, FP: 101, Q: 46, Trinella: 435 and 217, Exacta: 1,435 and 630. Favourite: Michigan Melody. Owner: Mr. Satish G Kundapur. Trainer: Azhar Ali.

6. NOBLE PRINCE PLATE (2,000m), rated 20 to 45: **WINDSTORM** (Darshan) 1, Only You (Sandesh) 2, Muirfield (S. John) 3 and Serdar (C.S. Jodha) 4. 1-1/4, 12-1/2 and 5-1/4. 2m, 12.78s. ₹46 (w), 20 and 13 (p), SHP: 29, THP: 28, FP: 91, Q: 43, Trinella: 160 and 64, Exacta: 266 and 158. Favourite: Only You. Owners: Dr. C.A. Prashanth, Mr. Gautam Basapa, Mr. Manjunath B.S and Mr. Apana Subaiya P. Trainer: S. Narredu.

7. BORSALINO PLATE (1,600m), rated 20 to 45, 4-y-o & over: **STAR DOMINATION** (Kiran N) 1, Queen Regnant (Bhawani S) 2 and Marco Polo (P.S. Chouhan) 3 and Je Ne Sais Quoi (B. Nayak) 4. Not run: Hope Island and Tyto Alba. 3/4, 2-1/2 and 1/2. 1m, 43.82s. ₹97 (w), 23, 17 and 16 (p), SHP: 37, THP: 49, FP: 328, Q: 164, Trinella: 444 and 471, Exacta: 49,033 and 21,014. Favourite: Queen Regnant. Owners: Mr. P. Ramesh Nadu & Mrs. Rohini Thuppal. Trainer: S. Narredu.

8. TREASURE GIRL PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200m), rated 20 to 45, 5-y-o & over: **FERNET BRANCA** (Ajinkya) 1, See My Heels (Suraj) 2, The Response (Ajeet K) 3 and Perfect Rendition (J.H. Arul) 4. Not run: Benediction and Realia. 1/2, 2 and 2-1/2. 1m, 17.36s. ₹35 (w), 15, 16 and 21 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 58, FP: 169, Q: 78, Trinella: 1,037 and 1,283, Exacta: 11,645 and 2,495. Favourite: Smithsonian. Owner: Mr. K. Mahaveer Chand. Trainer: Darius.

Jackpot: ₹1,14,053 (carried over); Treble (i): 1,768 (seven tkts); (ii): 3,868 (six tkts).

Resurgent India will hope for a perfect finish

South Africa needs to address its recent batting woes; injured Bavuma a doubtful starter for fifth and final T20I

SA IN INDIA

ASHWIN ACHAL
BENGALURU

The fate of the bilateral T20I series between India and South Africa rests on the fifth and final encounter at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium here on Sunday.

Honours are even at 2-2 after India recorded wins in the two previous outings. Fears that Bengaluru would be forced to host a dead rubber were wiped away by a strong comeback by the home team.

Game-changer: Karthik's blitz swung the contest India's way at Rajkot and helped it pull level 2-2. • VIJAY SONEJI

Rain threat

Persistent showers, however, could play spoilsport. The city is likely to witness heavy rain on Sunday night, which will test the SubAir drainage system at the stadium. Spectators can breathe easy knowing that the vacuum-powered suction system can get the ground ready for action 15 minutes after the rain stops.

The evergreen Dinesh Karthik will hope for an uninterrupted night out. Karthik, the only active international cricketer from the team which featured in India's first ever T20I (vs South Africa at Johannesburg, December 2006), rolled back the years with a rollicking 27-ball 55 in the previous game at Rajkot on Friday.

The match-winning knock earned him the 'Player of the Match' award, an honour he had won nearly 16 years ago in Johannesburg.

Fast bowler Avesh Khan will also enter this fixture on a high, having picked up four wickets at Rajkot. Avesh, who had gone wicketless in the first three matches, repaid the faith shown by the team management.

"There have been no changes to the eleven in the four games here. I would like to give credit to (head coach) Rahul (Dravid) sir.

"He gives a good opportunity to everyone, because you can't drop or include a player, or say that he is a good player based on performances in one or two games. He has given all the players enough games to play, so you have a good opportunity to prove yourself," Avesh said in the post-match media interaction. The 25-year-old speedster is ready for a different challenge at Bengaluru. "In the last two matches, our bowling attack has executed all our plans. We were able to get wickets consistently – both in the PowerPlay and in the middle overs.

"We will strive to do the same and perform as a group on Sunday. You have no control over the pitch and conditions. Bengaluru will be different from Rajkot. The better you adapt to different conditions, the better your performance will be," Avesh said.

Failing to fire

South Africa must quickly address its recent batting woes, which have led to low scores of 131 and 87. Rassie van der Dussen, David Miller and Heinrich Klaasen, the architects of the visitors' victories in the opening two matches, have gone quiet.

Captain Temba Bavuma, who retired hurt on Friday, is a doubtful starter.

The teams (from):

India: Rishabh Pant (Capt.), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Ishan Kishan, Shreyas Iyer, Hardik Pandya, Deepak Hooda, Dinesh Karthik, Axar Patel, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Avesh Khan, Yuzvendra Chahal, Harshal Patel, Venkatesh Iyer, Ravi Bishnoi, Arshdeep Singh, and Umran Malik.

South Africa: Temba Bavuma (Capt.), Quinton de Kock, Rassie van der Dussen, Heinrich Klaasen, David Miller, Dwaine Pretorius, Wayne Parnell, Kagiso Rabada, Anrich Nortje, Keshav Maharaj, Tabraiz Shamsi, Lungi Ngidi, Marco Jansen, Reeza Hendricks, and Tristan Stubbs.

Match starts at 7 p.m.

'I don't think anyone can fill Mithali's space'

Pep talk: NCA chief Laxman interacted with Team India ahead of its tour of Sri Lanka. • BCCIWOMEN/TWITTER

P.K. AJITH KUMAR

When India takes on Sri Lanka in the first Women's ODI at Pallekele on July 1, the visiting side will be without a player who has been a regular in the eleven for over two decades.

Mithali Raj will be missed, said Harmanpreet Kaur, who has taken over as the ODI captain from the most prolific batter in the women's game, on Saturday. The series features three ODIs and as many T20Is, the first of which will be played at Dambulla on June 23.

"I don't think there is anyone who can fill Mithali's space, but we are trying hard to get some combinations," said Harmanpreet. "We will miss her in the dressing room (too)."

She said the Lanka tour was a great opportunity for the team. "This is the first series we are going to play without the seniors," she said (India's most experienced bowler Jhulan Goswami is also missing from the squad).

Harmanpreet said things would be easier for her after being made the ODI captain. "I have been leading the T20 side for a long time," she said. "When two captains were there sometimes things were not too easy because sometimes...we would have different ideas."

The schedule: T20Is: June 23, 25 and 27, all at Dambulla.
ODIs: July 1, 4 and 7, all at Pallekele.

Madhya Pradesh earns another shot at title

Kartikeya bags five as the team reaches the final for the first time since 1998-99

RANJI TROPHY

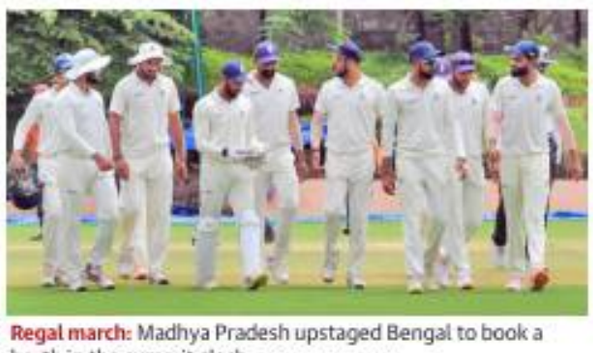
AYAN ACHARYA
BENGALURU

Kumar Kartikeya picked up five second innings wickets as Madhya Pradesh beat Bengal by 174 runs to reach its first Ranji Trophy final since 1998-99.

The celebrations after the win were low-key with MP head coach Chandrakant Pandit stating: "The boys realise the job isn't done yet. They are happy, but the revelries can wait." Also, Pandit and chief selector Chetan Sharma had a 15-minute chat with Kartikeya and Rajat Patidar after the match.

MP struck off the second ball of the morning after overnight rain delayed the start until 10.45 a.m.

Gaurav Yadav had Anustup Majumdar, who was not out overnight on 8, caught behind with an outswinger. Majumdar attempted an expansive drive and paid the price.



Regal march: Madhya Pradesh upstaged Bengal to book a berth in the summit clash. • SUDHAKARA JAIN

However, Bengal rallied for one session through its last recognised pair of Abhimanyu Easwaran (78, 157b, 7x4) and Shahbaz Ahmed. They batted well for a 38-run sixth-wicket stand as MP went flat for about one-and-a-half hours.

Abhimanyu's milestone

Both batters were different in their method against spin. Abhimanyu was initially the busier – watching, moving, and playing the ball as late as possible. Along the way, he crossed 5,000 First Class runs. Shahbaz, meanwhile, played the odd sweep and when the ball landed outside off or leg stump, used his pads as a second line of defence.

But Abhimanyu's dogged resistance ended after lunch when Kartikeya knocked over his stumps with a delivery that kept low.

Thereafter, Bengal was resigned to its fate as it collapsed from 135 for six, losing heart and wilting under the guile of Kartikeya, who finished with figures of five for 67. Madhya Pradesh lorded it over Bengal because the latter's cricket was blighted by basic errors with the bat, ball and fielding, particularly catching.

The scores:
MP – 1st innings: 341.
Bengal – 1st innings: 273.
MP – 2nd innings: 281.
Bengal – 2nd innings: Abhishek Raman c Patidar b Kartikeya 0, Abhimanyu Easwaran b Kartikeya 78, Sudip Gharami lbw b Saransh 19, Abishek Porel b Kartikeya 7, Manoj Tiwary c Gaurav b Kartikeya 7, Anustup Majumdar c Mantri b Gaurav 8, Shahbaz Ahmed (not out) 22, Sayan Mondal lbw b Saransh 1, Pradipta Pramanik c Aditya b Kartikeya 5, Akash Deep c sub b Gaurav 20, Mukesh Kumar b Gaurav 4; Extras (b-1, lb-2, w-1): 4; Total (in 65.2 overs): 175.

Fall of wickets: 1-0, 2-49, 3-60, 4-80, 5-97, 6-135, 7-138, 8-145, 9-171.

MP bowling: Kartikeya 32-10-67-5, Anubhav 4-0-17-0, Saransh 24-1-69-2, Gaurav 5.2-0-19-3.

Mumbai storms into the final

'Underdog' UP can go home with heads held high

AMOL KARHADKAR
BENGALURU

The writing was on the wall on the penultimate day. Then, overnight heavy rain made the last day's proceedings of the semifinal between Mumbai and Uttar Pradesh at Just Cricket Academy on Saturday a mere formality, if not a farce.

Eventually, only 16 overs were bowled, with UP part-timers rolling their arm over.

Declaration and end!

The moment Shams Mulani joined Sarfaraz Khan in the half-century club, Mumbai declared its second essay at 533 for four. With less than half an hour remaining for tea, the break was called and the teams shook hands.

Despite the disappointing outing over the last five days, Uttar Pradesh had plenty to cherish from a season where it started as underdog.

Mumbai will go into the final at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium from Wednesday with literally no chink in its armour. With the part-timers bowling, Sarfaraz – in the form of his life – was served dollies aplenty. He crossed the 800-run mark for the season with two sizzling hits over mid-wicket.

Purple patch: Sarfaraz continued his fine run and crossed the 800-run mark for the season. • FILE PHOTO: VIJAY SONEJI

The scores:
Mumbai – 1st innings: 393.
UP – 1st innings: 180.
Mumbai – 2nd innings: Prithvi Shaw c Mavi b Saurabh 64, Yashasvi Jaiswal c sub b Prince 181, Armaan Jaffer c sub b Mavi 127, Suved Parkar c & b Prince 22, Sarfaraz Khan (not out) 59, Shams Mulani (not out) 51; Extras (b-12, lb-4, nb-4, w-9): 29; Total (for four wkts. decl. in 156 overs): 533.

Fall of wickets: 1-66, 2-352, 3-404, 4-420.

UP bowling: Dayal 10-1-43-0, Rajpoot 19-4-58-0, Mavi 12-3-36-1, Prince 27-3-92-2, Saurabh 35-6-1-113-1, Karan 30-7-84-0, Rinku 12-0-49-0, Samarth 2-0-9-0, Kaushik 9-1-33-0.

Golden show by Neeraj

Neeraj. • TWITTER

SPORTS BUREAU

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, battling rain and slippery conditions, won the javelin gold with his opening throw of 86.69m at the Kuortane Games in Kuortane, Finland, on Saturday. It was Neeraj's first gold this year.

The 24-year-old had just one legal throw as he fouled his second attempt, slipped while finishing his next and did not attempt the other three throws.

Sandeep Chaudhary was eighth and last (60.35m).

IN BRIEF

Shakib and Nurul to Bangladesh's rescue

NORTH SOUND

Skipper Shakib Al Hasan (53 batting) and Nurul Hasan (49 batting) added 101 for the unbroken seventh wicket as Bangladesh reached 210 for six at tea on day three of the first Test against the West Indies on Saturday.

The scores: Bangladesh 103 & 210/6 in 76 overs (Mahmudul Hasan Joy 42, Shakib Al Hasan 53, Nurul Hasan 49 batting) vs West Indies 265 in 112.5 overs (Kraigg Brathwaite 94, Jermaine Blackwood 63; Mehidy Hasan 4/59). AFP

Brunt retires from Tests

LONDON

England pacer Katherine Brunt on Saturday announced her retirement from Test cricket, calling time on a career that spanned 17 years. The 36-year-old will continue to play in the shorter formats of the game. ANI

Sathiyan bows out

ZAGREB

G. Sathiyan, who had shocked World No. 6 and the second seed Darko Jorgic of Slovenia in the first round, went down to Chuang Chi-Yuan of Taipei 7-11, 9-11, 5-11 in the men's quarterfinals of the World Table Tennis Contender here on Saturday.

Injured Osaka withdraws from Wimbledon

PARIS

Former World No. 1 Naomi Osaka pulled out of Wimbledon on Saturday with an Achilles injury. "My Achilles still isn't right so I'll see you next time," she tweeted. AFP

Morikawa and Dahmen share the top spot

Rahm, McIlroy among five one adrift

All a blur: But for a missed birdie putt on the 18th, Dahmen would have been in sole lead. • AP

US OPEN GOLF

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
BROOKLINE

A weekend showdown of golf's top stars was set on Friday at the US Open as two-time Major winner Collin Morikawa seized a share of the lead while Jon Rahm and Rory McIlroy were one stroke adrift.

Seventh-ranked Morikawa fired a four-under 66 and American Joel Dahmen, who shot 68, joined him on five-under 135 after two rounds. Second-ranked defending champion Rahm, third-ranked McIlroy and Americans Hayden Buckley, Aaron Wise and Beau Hossler shared second on 136.

McIlroy, chasing his first Major title since 2014, comes off a victory in last week's PGA Canadian Open. Not since 1934 has a player won the week before and then captured the US Open.

Top-ranked Masters champion Scottie Scheffler, with an eagle and two birdies on the last six holes, was on 137.

Dahmen, 34, won his only PGA title last year in the Dominican Republic. But for a missed 10-foot birdie putt on the 18th, he would have been in sole lead.

Six-time Major winner Phil Mickelson missed the cut on 11-over 151.

The scores: 135: Joel Dahmen (USA, 67, 68), Collin Morikawa (USA, 69, 66); **136:** Beau Hossler (USA, 69, 67), Aaron Wise (USA, 68, 68), Hayden Buckley (USA, 68, 68), Jon Rahm (Esp, 69, 67), Rory McIlroy (NIR, 67, 69); **137:** Patrick Rodgers (USA, 69, 68), Matthew NeSmith (USA, 68, 69), Scottie Scheffler (USA, 70, 67), Nick Hardy (USA, 69, 68), Brian Harman (USA, 68, 69).

Gurjit shines as India stuns Argentina

Heartbreak for men as they lose to Netherlands in shootout

FIH PRO LEAGUE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
ROTTERDAM

Gurjit Kaur scored a brace as the Indian women's hockey team dished out a spirited performance to stun Olympic silver medallist Argentina 2-1 in the shootout after a 3-3 stalemate in regulation time in the first match of the two-leg FIH Pro League tie on Saturday.

Gurjit's two penalty-corner conversions and Lalremsiami's field strike cancelled out Agustina Gorzelany's hat-trick to take the match into the shootout.

In the shootout, Neha Goyal and Sonika scored for India, while Victoria Granatto was the lone scorer for this edition's Pro League champion as the Savita Punia-led side registered a famous win.

The Indian men produced a lion-hearted performance before losing 1-4 to table-topper The Netherlands in the shootout after the the sides were locked 2-2 at regulation time. The reverse has virtually put India out of the title race.

The Indians are third with 30 points from 15 games with just one match remaining while Netherlands lead with 33 points from 13 games with three matches in hand. Olympic champion Belgium is second (31 points, 14 games) with two matches remaining.

Breathtaking hockey was on display between two world-class teams as India and Netherlands battled it out.

There was also a battle of supremacy between two best goalkeepers of the world – P.R. Sreejesh and Pirmin Blaak – and the two came up with brilliant saves on numerous occasions in the first two quarters.

However, in the shootout, only Vivek Sagar Prasad could find the target while Netherlands scored four times.

The results: Women: India 3 (Lalremsiami 4, Gurjit 37 & 61) drew with Argentina 3 (Agustina Gorzelany 22, 37, 45). *India won 2-1 in shootout.*

Men: India 2 (Dilpreet 22, Harmanpreet 60) drew with Netherlands 2 (de Vilder 10, Bijen 47). *Netherlands won 4-1 in shootout.*

Team effort: Indian women gave a spirited display to humble Argentina. • TWITTER/FIHPROLEAGUE

Sriram-Jeevan pair does it again

Having the last laugh: Sriram and Jeevan prevailed in a super tiebreak in the final. • SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

SPORTS BUREAU

Sriram Balaji and Jeevan Nedunchezhiyan won their second successive Challenger title, beating Romain Arneodo (Monaco) and Jonathan Eysseric (France) 6-4, 6-7(3), [10-7], in the final of the €45,730 event in Blois, France, on Saturday. The duo collected 80 ATP points and €2,670.

In the Ilkley Challenger, Ramkumar Ramanathan and John-Patrick Smith of Australia reached the final.

Other results: Semifinals: €134,920 Challenger, Ilkley, Britain: John-Patrick Smith (Aus) & Ramkumar Ramanathan bt Luke Johnson & Aidan McHugh (GBr) 6-3, 7-6(5).
$15,000 ITF men, Tay Ninh, Vietnam: Digvijay Pratap Singh bt Tsung-Hao Huang (Tpe) 6-4, 7-5.

Prannoy loses to Peng

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JAKARTA

H.S. Prannoy lost in the semifinal yet again as he bowed out of the Indonesia Open Super 1000 badminton tournament after going down 16-21, 15-21 to China's Zhao Jun Peng on Saturday.

World No. 1 Viktor Axelsen secured a place in the title clash after toppling Malaysian rising star Lee Zii Jia 19-21, 21-11, 23-21 in a tight, fast-paced encounter.

Other results:

Women (semifinals): Tai Tzu-ying bt Tai Tzu-ying 10-21, 26-24, 21-12; Wang Zhiyi bt He Bingjiao 21-15, 21-10.

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